WORLD SOCCER

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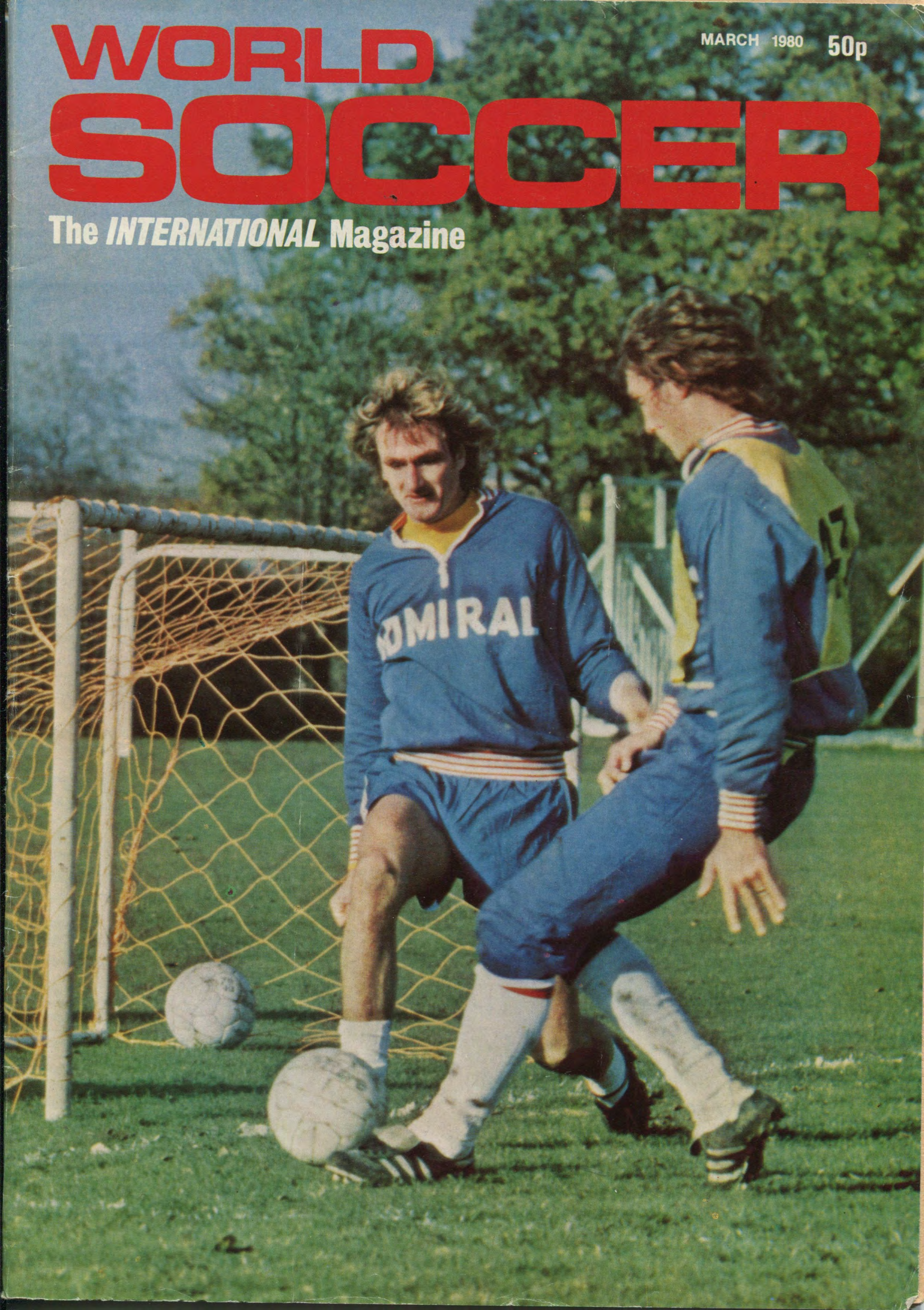
The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine



World SOCCER

BARRY KITCHENER and TREVOR WHYMARK

Tampa Bay Rowdies (left) Vancouver Whitecaps

COMMENT. . .

ONE man doesn't make a team but as far as England are concerned, Kevin Keegan comes close to it. Keegan's virtuoso performance against the Republic of Ireland again highlighted how much England rely on this talented, Southampton-bound player.

Qualification for the European Championship with an unbeaten record marks a welcome change for England. Before Ron Greenwood took over we had a depressing record of missing the big occasions.

At least England have earned their right to attend the party in Rome but the team that stuttered along against Ireland is in need of considerable improvement.

It was disappointing to see Glenn Hoddle left on the sidelines. He made such a splendid debut against Bulgaria that a second cap appeared assured. Greenwood's decision to experiment further may have some justification, but surely an opportunity to give Hoddle further international experience was wasted.

And what about the paying spectators, who put hundreds of thousands of pounds into the coffers of the Football Association? Hoddle is entertaining no matter what he does, even trapping a ball. He has class, style, panache and flair. For the first time since the great Bobby Charlton retired, England have a player who can produce a goal out of nothing. And, like Charlton, Hoddle can shoot from any range with either foot.

England may fall back on the steady but stereotyped Ray Wilkins and Trevor Brooking in Italy but Hoddle is worthy of a place.

If England are to play down the flanks then wingers will be required. But what is the definition of a winger? Steve Coppell is a popular choice with Greenwood; he defends well even if his attacking prowess is much less than it was.

But how can anyone justify the inclusion of Peter Barnes, who has done little in an extended run with England. Barnes has talent but then so does a player like Graham Rix of Arsenal. Rix tackles better than Barnes, passes more accurately and with better timing — often playing a decisive early ball where Barnes would first embark upon a dribble.

Rix may not be a definitive winger but he performs the task well in a practical way. He is serving his international apprenticeship via the England Under-21 team but why hasn't he been given an early full cap?

Players used to be blooded at an early age. There may be no substitute for experience but there must also be an argument for playing those with genuine skill. Rix and Hoddle are cases in point.

England team manager Ron Greenwood, shading the talents of Glenn Hoddle from view?

Welcome home Kevin!

KEVIN KEEGAN will be back in English football next season playing for Southampton. The surprise move was announced by Saints manager Lawrie McMenemy after one of the closest of secrets concerning a major transfer.

The move underlined the fact that if two clubs want to keep something to themselves they can and leaks are only made when they wish them to be filtered out to the media.

At £400,000 Keegan is a bargain in modern financial terminology and his return to English football after what will have been three years with Hamburg is certain to create considerable interest.

Although Southampton are unable at present to do much about increasing the capacity of their own ground at The Dell, they are more than hopeful that in the next two years they will have been able to persuade the local council to take steps towards a new site.

And in the meantime as far as Keegan is concerned he will be a great attraction at other grounds and could help to make the Saints one of the biggest crowd-pullers in the First Division next to Liverpool and Manchester United.

Oddly enough the return of Keegan will probably be as welcome to the other 21 First Division clubs as any possible other signing from outside this country.

Although Keegan's attendance record for England during his sojourn in West Germany has been a good one, there is no doubt that with the 1982 World Cup to be considered, it is a much healthier state to have him on the doorstep, particularly as he is the captain these days.

So after the speculation about Juventus, Barcelona, Real Madrid and various others, Keegan has settled for less money, but nearing the 30 mark he is wisely putting sense and security of background for himself and family before all.

Kevin Keegan after signing for Southampton, with his wife Jean and baby Laura Jane, Saints manager Lawrie McMenemy and his wife Anne.

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Telephone: 01-353 5688
Editor: PHILIP RISING
Editor-in-Chief:
PAUL PARISH
79 TEMPLE CHAMBERS
LONDON EC4 0EX

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'The match of

Special report from Barcelona

THE Match of the Century takes place at least twice a year in Spain, or so the papers would have us believe.

But Barcelona against Real Madrid — or vice-versa, depending on the venue — is more than a football match. It's civil war without the killing; Scotland against England, without the hooliganism.

So much pent-up regional ferocity is unleashed, with the flames for this spring's bonfire in Barcelona fanned by a comment of the veteran Catalan president-general, Jose Tarradellas, that Spain (the Madrid government, by implication) was a country without ambition.

But I would be doing Tarradellas an injustice to leave it there. For most Catalans his important political manoeuvre was to bring about an uneasy truce in the war of words between the presidents of Barcelona (Jose Luis Nuñez) and Real Madrid (Luis De Carlos) after Catalan allegations that Madrid obtained more than their share of good luck with referees.

On the quiet both Nuñez and De Carlos were probably pleased to accept mediation and return to the football. But, as we shall see, Nuñez's opinions were not to be assuaged.

To most Britons, Spain means sun. But Barcelona was distinctly cool and distinctly wet on the eve of the game.

Not everyone was aware of the match. I know that for a certainty. On Saturday evening I took a taxi from the Ramblas in the city centre, directed the driver to Nou Camp to collect my ticket only for him to take me instead to the nearby, silent Sarria stadium of Espanol!

Nou Camp itself was busy. On one of the sand training pitches a boys' match was in progress and in the joint indoor stadia — on the one hand the ice rink, on the other the basketball hall, with the members' bar separating one from t'other — the tenage hockey boys were at practice.

Later they disappeared, leaving the rink free for the public at large. And all the while, the black market flourished outside. Tickets for the football were going at FA Cup Final prices — £12 seats for £120, £4 standing for £24. The touts were having no trouble selling, either, assisted ironically by the very grandeur of the Barcelona club, with its 80,000 membership.

With every *socio* guranteed a ticket, a mere 13,000 remained for public sale, of which only a miniscule 2,000 went to Real Madrid. The champions' few followers were, in the 100,000 crowd, thus outnumbered some 50 to one.

And though there were welcoming cheers when Madrid arrived at Barcelona airport the previous evening, there were only whistles of derision when, an hour and a half before the kick-off, the players strolled out in their city suits, to look at the pitch and 'feel' the atmosphere.

Madrid coach Vujadin Boskov had been a spectator the previous Tuesday when Barcelona, held 1-1 by Nottingham Forest, had been beaten 2-1 on aggregate for the European Super Cup. And thus he decided that his men had to fear not so much Barcelona's players, but the crowd.

"We have to drive a wedge betteen the fans and the team," he told his men, sending them out again half an hour before the start for a lengthy warm-up. Again the Barsa fans jeered and shrieked, particularly skipper Pirri, even though the stadium was as yet barely a quarter full.

Sure of a seat, the vast majority had left their arrival until the last minute. To avoid the rain — and any more out-of-touch taxis — I'd travelled by Metro. And though that was two hours before the kick-off, the nearby San Ramon station was remarkably peaceful.

Perhaps the rain was a dampner. But it kept no one away, and deterred none of several thousand fans without a ticket who waited enthusiastically by the official car park and, each time the gate was opened to admit a director, piled through to gain free entry despite the cohorts of police!

Though Madrid were nine points ahead of Barcelona in the league, that meant little. They'd lost their last two away games and this was like a Cup Tie, with Barcelona having the more at stake. They'd conceded only one league goal at home and were unbeaten. Yet their hopes of the Championship or even a UEFA Cup place, were virtually dead. They'd lost the Super Cup and, controversially, had sacked two of their most dangerous strikers in Hans Krankl and Juan Carlos Heredia.

Coach Joaquin Rife's head was on the block. Lose this, the most important game of all, and he'll go — that was the general view, even though Rife blandly assured me and anyone who cared to believe him that: "I know of no ultimatum. I know one or two directors aren't happy with the way I've done the job, but I have no regrets. This is just another game, like any other."

Perhaps there was no ultimatum as such, but it was implicit in Barcelona's critical situation. And this was NOT a game like any other, even though Rife's words were echoed bravely by the referee, Manuel Fandos, a 40-year-old from Valencia.

Barcelona fans were pleased by his appointment. He'd earned the nickname "Mister Penalty", having awarded 18 spot kicks in his previous 28 First Division games — one of them against Madrid, in their 4-0 defeat away to unbeaten leaders Real Sociedad, when he had also sent off Vicente Del Bosque.

Not a man to be intimidated by Madrid's reputation, the fans believed.

Madrid weren't to be intimidated either. Hence their work-out before the start. Boskov wanted them fully conscious of the treacherous nature of the slippery pitch and to build up an immunity to the partisan cries of the crowd.

The clubs are rivals in all things, of course. Barcelona took a gleeful pride in the fact that whereas they plan a capacity increase to 120,000 for the World Cup, Madrid will probably cut to 90,000 by installing more seating; and the clubs will later on be competitors too in the bidding for £500,000-rated Valencia sweeper Ricardo Arias.

Madrid, who have probably stolen a march by freely returning Juan Sol to his old club, need Arias to replace Pirri, in his last season. The sweeper role is fancied by the West German midfielder, Uli Stielike. But, hard man as he is, Stielike has also proved fragile and indeed he was the notable absentee when the teams made their official entrances.

The players had, in fact, been upstaged by Tarradellas himself, welcomed by a prolonged ovation as he took his place of honour in the directors' box. To his left sat Nunez; one place further away and across the gangway, De Carlos.

Together, but apart. Suddenly, all the seats were filled. The crowd, prompted by the electronic scoreboard, rose fervently in the Catalan anthem and the club hymn. And the footballers of Barcelona went forth, in the manner of the city's patron saint, St George, to slay the Real Madrid dragon. Or at least, that was what the crowd expected . . .

Madrid, to the surprise of Celtic's spying manager. Billy McNeill, and the consternation of the Barsa fans, launched on to the offensive themselves. In the second minute Juanito, clear in front of goal, hit a glorious

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REAL SOCIEDAD of San Sebastian, still unbeaten and level top with Real Madrid after 20 games, had their success underlined when five men were named by Ladislao Kubala in the national squad for the Malaga friendly against East Germany — goalkeeper Luis Arconada, right-back Genaro Celayeta, midfielder Jesus Zamora and strikers Jesus Satrustegui and Roberto Lopez Ufarte.

★ ★ ★

VICENTE MIERA, ex-trainer of Gijon, has been named Coach of the Month by a leading magazine for his efforts in dispelling the clouds of gloom at Espanol Barcelona. Nevertheless, Miera apparently doesn't want to stay beyond the season's end.

FIVE First Division trainers have been sacked so far — Leon Lasa (Betis), Jose Luis Garcia Traid (Burgos), Benito Joanet (Hercules), Andoni Irulegui (Espanol) and Hector Nunez (Rayo Vallecano). Nunez was the latest departure, a victim both of Rayo's relegation position and the players' disaffection.

★ ★ ★

MARIO KEMPES, so disappointing last season, is back in form. With 15 goals he is just one behind Quini (Gijon) in the charts and with Valencia improving and Gijon slipping, has every chance of regaining the Trofeo Pichichi he won in 1978 as the league's ace marksman.

the Century'

Laurie Cunningham, in action for England against Southern Ireland at Wembley.

opportunity miles too high. Minutes later Stielike's deputy, Garcia Hernandez, sent Pedro Artola stretching to the right to tip away his drive for a corner.

The crowd fell silent. This wasn't in the script. But for a further quarter of an hour Madrid's class dominated before Barcelona, through strength of will rather than organised skill, made any of the running.

With Allan Simonsen close-marked by Camacho and the new Brazilian, Roberto 'Dinamita' slow and ponderous, it was to left-winger Carrasco they looked for inspiration.

"The best young player in Spain and one of the best in Europe," according to Boskov, he teased the boots off San Jose. In one superb escapade down the left he nimbly vaulted three attempted foul tackles before clipping in a chip which Garcia Remon turned over the bar with difficulty.

In another first-half charge, Simonsen set up raiding left-back Gordi Serrat, but his shot was blocked. And it was Serrat who would figure in the most controversial incident in the match, on the half-hour.

Madrid, with one of their peculiar lapses of concentration, had given the ball away suicidally in midfield. Roberto played a beautiful pass behind the stopper Benito, and Serrat tore across the face of the penalty box with only Garcia Remon left.

As I, and 100,000 fans saw it, the goalkeeper made no effort to play the ball but simply threw himself against the full-back, knocking him clean off his feet. It had to be a penalty. The Madrid players stood resigned . . . and then revitalised, as Fandos awarded a free-kick to Madrid!

There was uproar. Barcelona's players went berserk and several of the local journalists alongside me in the eagle's nest Press box nearly fell out in their apoplexy.

The crowd were in no doubt what had happened. Around the ground thousands of white handkerchiefs fluttered in the breeze, indicating exactly why they thought Fandos had behaved as he had.

Barcelona president Nuñez was in no doubt either, bounding from his seat alongside Tarradellas and storming out of the directors' box, his aides in close and hasty pursuit, both in protest but also to bring him back.

Which, after a few minutes, they did.

Not that the spectacle, for Barcelona, was improving. Madrid soon understood that Laurie Cunningham had the legs of the rugged little Argentine full-back, Rafael Zuviria. Time and again the Englishman gracefully strode past him, lifting his legs high each time to avoid being chopped off at the knees.

The match turned ugly. Zuviria was booked, so was Madrid's Benito. Sanchez and Simonsen were hacked down, so was Juanito.

And yet, amid the temper and the passion as half-time approached, so the two clubs exhibited a mode of sportsmanship incredible in the circumstances both in generosity and, yes, even a lost nobility.

First when Zuviria went down injured, then a little later when Benito was felled like a tree by the full-back — fierce but fair, this time — Barcelona put the ball deliberately into touch. The second occasion was the more remarkable, because Barsa were pouring forward on the Madrid goal, yet skipper Juan Manuel Asensi consciously chose to defuse the situation, earning a hug and handshake from Pirri.

Once Benito was back on his feet, so Madrid repeated their earlier response — San Jose throwing the ball away into vacant Barcelona territory, where Serrat could quickly retrieve and put his team back on the attack.

"Not every team is so generous," commented collegeague Mario Duran, of the Newspaper, *Dicen*. "Barcelona put the ball out like that against Nottingham, but Nottingham didn't give it back . . ."

"Penalty?" queried De Carlos at half-time. "I didn't think there was any penalty committed."

Nuñez refused to comment.

So, into the second half. And, in just over a quarter of an hour, the outcome was decided — owing not a little to Boskov's judgment with substitutes.

In the 50th minute he took off the struggling San Jose, pushing on Sabido with instructions not to wait for Carrasco to get the ball, but intercept first, effectively putting him out of the game.

Then, after Simonsen and Roberto had seen shots blocked and Barcelona had wasted an indirect free-kick deep in the Madrid

● *Continued on page 46*

SPAIN by Keir Radnedge

BALKAN NEWS by Slobodan Vasic

SLAVS TOUR CHINA

NEXT summer Yugoslav amateurs will tour China. This is a traditional match between these two amateur selections. Also, the amateurs will have matches versus Italy and Greece.

Marko Valok, a former national team manager, was named coach of FC Vojvodina, Novi Sad, the bottom club in the first division.

FC Vojvodina also have five new players: Komljenović (from Napredak), Jović (from Partizan), Rajevac (from Red Star), Vujadinović (from Dynamo) and Novaković (from Spartak).

Also, last winter two of the leading Slav players moved to new clubs. Ismet Hadzić went from Sloboda Tuzla to Dynamo Zagreb and Nikica Cukrov from NK Rijeka to Hajduk Split. Both are members of the National "A" team.

According to Yugoslav newspapers, Dynamo Zagreb are very interested in Vladislav Bogićević, a former captain of Red Star, and now with New York Cosmos.

★ ★ ★

THE Albanian FA Cup matches were played during December and January. The greatest surprise was that Vlaznia, defending winners, were eliminated by Ljabinoti in two games, 3:4 and 3:3.

FC Ljuftetari, the leaders of the league, were also knocked out, by Skenderbeu, 1-1 and 1-0.

The capital rivals, Dynamo and 17th Nendori, had a hard fight in two matches and Dynamos reached the semi-finals after penalty deciders. Thanks to an away goal Partizani eliminated Fljamutari, 0-0 and 1-1.

Semi-final matches will be played in March and the draw was: Partizani v. Dynamo and Skenderbeu v. Ljabinoti.

FC Ljuftetari still lead the league after 16 rounds with 21 points, ahead of Dynamo thanks to goal average. In the 16th round only ten goals were scored in seven matches.

Latest results: Naftetari 2 Ljabinoti 1, 17th Nendori 2 Vlaznia 1, Partizani 0 Besa 1, Lokomotiva 0 Ljuftetari 1, Fljamutari 1 Dynamo 1. To play: Skenderbeu-Apolonia and Tomori-Skenida.

★ ★ ★

MIHAIL SAMES from FC Steaua was named "The 1979 Most Valuable Player" in Bulgaria.

Sports magazine *Sportul* sought the votes of presidents and coaches of clubs as well as journalists.

Sames had 187 points and Stefanescu, from Universitatea of Craiova was second. Marcel Raducanu from FC Steaua was third.

The "1979 All Stars Team" was: Arichu, Angelini, Katardziu, Cekanu, Ungureanu, Dumitru, Mursan, Iovannescu, Raducanu, Terkesh and Krcu.

The FA of Bulgaria are very interested in Stefan Kovacs, a former Rumanian manager, who retired last year. Mr. Kovacs has an offer to become the manager of the Bulgarian national team.

GREECE/CYPRUS by Lakis Arraamides

Warm up for Rome

GREECE began their preparations for the finals of the European Championship in Italy this June with a 1-1 away draw against Cyprus in January and they will finish it with a match against World Cup holders Argentina, in Athens on May 24.

In between, Greece played in Paris against France in February, and will meet Switzerland in Zurich on April 2 and East Germany in Dresden two weeks later.

Against Cyprus the Greek National coach, Mr. Alketas Panagoulia, used 17 players and he was pleased with everybody.

They worked hard – he said – to get into the squad for the finals. This is very good for the team because the players will give everything.

Mr. Panagoulias said that in the friendly matches he is going to use about 30-35 players and after the match against East Germany he will pick up 22 players with whom he will work hard till the finals.

First matches

Speaking about the draw of the two groups, Mr. Panagoulias said that he was disappointed.

"Our three opponents," he said, "are among the favourites for the Cup, of course. The other teams are strong but you can say that Spain have the same chances as Holland, W. Germany or Czechoslovakia."

Mr. Panagoulias wanted to play in the North group but Greece were unlucky as their two first matches against Netherlands and Czechoslovakia will be played in Naples and Rome.

But Greece, according to Mr. Panagoulias, were lucky to avoid Italy in the preliminaries.

Best Team

The national team of Greece were elected Team of the Year, 1979 by the Greek sportswriters for the qualification in the finals of the Henry Deleany Cup. During the presentation of the trophy early in February, Mr. Panagoulias expressed the wish that the national team will be elected "Team of 1980" for a good performance in the finals in Italy.

★ ★ ★

THE coach of the Cyprus national team, Mr. Costas Talianos, is facing too many problems in preparing the team for the first match of the preliminary round for the World Cup against the Republic of Ireland on March 26 in Nicosia.

After the friendly match against Greece in January, the National team is expected to make the next training session in March. This is because during February all teams played Cup ties in midweek.

Against Greece, Cyprus scored an impressive 1-1 draw after a good performance. This has proved that Cyprus can do better in the international arena with a good organisation and the right preparation.

It is good for the Cyprus National team that the game against the Republic of Ireland is on a Wednesday. And this means that Mr. Talianos can use the "exile" Cypriot players who play in the Greek League.

These players are the goalkeeper, George Pantziaras, of Aris Salonica; Stayros Papadopoulos and Gregory Savva of Olympiakos; Kizas of Panathinaikos, and Tasos of AEK. With these players Cyprus can field a strong team to fight for a win against the Republic of Ireland.

Pondamali, goalkeeper of Tanzania, dives to save as Zambia's striker Godfrey Chitalu, who is pursued by Tanzania's defenders, challenges. This was at Dag Hammarskjoeld stadium in Ndola, Zambia, where Tanzania forced a 1-1 draw to give them a 2-1 goal-aggregate over Zambia and saw them through to the finals of the Africa cup of nations.

AFRICAN CUP STAGE SET

by James Mwambazi

AFRICA'S eight top teams meet in Nigeria for the finals of the 12th Africa Cup of nations which has now been renamed the Africa Cup of Unity.

The competition, which will be held between March 8 and 20, is the most prestigious and oldest sports festival on the African continent.

Six countries have won it since it was inaugurated in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, in 1957. Egypt in 1957 and 1959, Ghana in 1963, 1965 and 1978, Sudan in 1969, Zaire in 1968 and 1974, Congo in 1972 and Morocco in 1976.

The competition is open to all 42 member nations and is played every two years, firstly on an elimentary basis with the eight surviving teams going to the finals.

Hosts Nigeria, Tanzania, Ivory Coast and Egypt are in group "A". Ghana, the defending champions, Guinea, Algeria and Morocco from group "B", which on paper appears the strongest.

Missing from this year's contest, for the first time in four years, will be Zambia, one of Africa's most formidable and well-organised teams. They were eliminated from the competition by neighbours, Tanzania on a 2:1 goal-aggregate (1:0, 1:1).

The teams to watch in this year's tournament will be Ghana, Guinea, Egypt and Nigeria, but Ghana are the favourites.

Ghana, whose football is synonymous with Accra Hearts of Oak, a club side that provides the majority of national team players, have won the title more times than any of the participating teams. Ghana are currently playing very attractive and aggressive football on the continent.

They have an army of young players who are capable of splitting any herculean defence with great ease. They include Anas Saidu, Ayub Tanko, John Yawson, the footballer of the year, and Robert Tetteh, the most intelligent forward.

Ghana's training programme was, however, interrupted when the players walked out of their camp in protest against the Ghanaian football authorities, whom they accused of breaking promises made to them.

The players alleged that estate houses that had been promised to them by the former government of Ignatius Acheampong for winning the African Cup in Accra in 1978 had not been provided. They also complained of the quality of food and training facilities at the Camp in Accra, and that winning bonuses had not been paid to them for two years.

But despite the rift between them and football authorities, the Black Stars, as they are known, are not likely to let down Ghana.

Although Guinea have not made an impact on the tournament in their previous appearances, they could spring a surprise over Algeria and Morocco to end runners-up to Ghana in group "B" and surge forward to the semi-finals.

Guinea's football has improved greatly in recent years and is built around Haifa Club, the 1978 champions of the Africa Cup of Club Champions. Their fighting spirit has been kept ablaze by the keen support of their head of state, President Sekou Toure.

Morocco, once the elite of African soccer, have plummeted badly from the pinacle which saw them to the 1968 finals of the World Cup in Mexico. Apart from the 2-1 victory over Nigeria in the 1976 finals at Addis Ababa, Morocco have had nothing new to offer. Their football has been depressing.

In the 1978 finals played in Ghana, Morocco played badly and were at the tail-end of group "B" with one win, one draw and one defeat. Unless they have found a new formula, they cannot hope to beat Ghana and Guinea in their pool.

But if home advantage and a partisan crowd have anything to do with the course of the game then Nigeria have the best prospects of emerging tops in group "A". Nigeria have appeared three times in this tournament. They came close to winning it in 1976, but Morocco put a spanner into the works, beating them 2-1 at Addis Ababa. They reached the semi-finals in the 1978 tournament but were stopped by Uganda from further advance with a 2:1 routing.

Now after coming so close so far away in the previous tournaments, Nigeria are poised to throw everything into the competition to achieve what eluded them in their last three attempts.

Nigeria will have a big challenge from Egypt. Egypt are the most consistent side in the African cup, and one of the strongest teams in Africa. They have appeared in the competition a record five times, which gives them the much needed experience for a tournament of this magnitude.

Tanzania are the babies of the competition, having qualified for the first time since the tournament was inaugurated. They may have little to offer, but on their day, they are capable of upsetting the applecart.

Their team, the Taifa Stars as they are called, thrive on individual brilliance of their players. One such player is Sandy Manara, the "wizard", who recently returned from his tours of the United States and Holland.

Tanzania have been handled by a Polish coach, Slawomir Wolk who recently complained to the Tanzanian football authorities about lack of international trial matches for his team.

Here is a glance at the results of the tournament since its inauguration.

1957 Khartoum: Egypt — Ethiopia 4:2
1959 Cairo: Egypt-Sudan 2:1
1961 Addis Ababa: Ethiopia-Egypt 4:2
1963 Accra: Ghana-Sudan 3:0
1965 Tunis: Ghana-Tunisia 3:2
1968 Addis Ababa: Zaire-Ghana 1:0
1969 Khartoum: Sudan-Ghana 1:0
1972 Yaounde: Congo-Mali 3:2
1974 Cairo: Zaire-Zambia 2:0
1976 Addis Ababa: Morocco-Nigeria 2:1
1978 Accra: Ghana-Uganda 2:0

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GERMANY RULE THE EIGHTIES

by Paul Radford

THE decision to allocate places in the UEFA Cup on the basis of actual results rather than on some spurious notion of which European countries should get special privileges was long overdue.

It was never fair that countries like Italy and Spain, where football at club level has been in decline throughout the seventies, should automatically get four and three places respectively in the UEFA Cup.

At the other end of this ridiculous spectrum rapidly improving countries like Belgium and the Netherlands were permanently restricted to just two places.

The UEFA allocation system may not be perfect but it goes a step in the right direction.

In future, if the teams in your country get poor results in European competitions, then you are likely to get fewer places in the UEFA Cup. You can hardly say fairer than that.

The UEFA system is to give two points for a win, one for a draw and a bonus of one point for each round reached from the quarter-finals onwards. The total for each country is then added up and divided by the number of teams that nation fielded in the three European club competitions.

The average is worked out over a five-year period, but excludes the current season. So when the system is introduced this year — season 1980/81 — only the seasons 1974/75 to 1978/79 will be taken into account.

The three top countries will receive four places in the UEFA Cup, the next five will get three while 13 more get two and the last 11 just one.

Kevin Keegan.

This system seems deficient in three ways. Firstly, it fails to give any emphasis to the major tournament, the European Cup. This penalises England who should get some recognition for the fact that her clubs have won Europe's top honour for the last three years through Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

Secondly, the five-year period allows for the possibility of wide fluctuations if one country has one really bad year. A ten-year period would give the system more stability.

And thirdly there seems little point in excluding the current season from the calculations. That is done purely for administrative convenience.

The system has, perhaps not surprisingly, come under fire from the chauvinistic English national sports press as England will get only three places next year instead of the traditional four.

It could be that there is an element of wounded pride in all this. Soccer fans are fed with a constant diet of assertions from managers, players and journalists that "the English First Division is the best in the world."

Statistics don't always back up those well-worn arguments and anyone rash enough to point this out is dismissed as "a knocker".

There seems no reason why English fans should feel ashamed that their country's clubs are only deemed to rank fourth in Europe over the last five years. But anything less than number one just isn't worth contemplating apparently.

How anyone from Kevin Keegan down could argue that standards in the English First Division are higher than in the West German *Bundesliga* defies the logic presented by the evidence.

In five of the last six years West Germany has ended with a higher "UEFA average" than England, and often considerably higher.

This season is hardly likely to be an exception with all five West German UEFA Cup sides reaching the last eight while the four English representatives failed to make the last 16.

But let's look on the bright side. Over the last decade as a whole, using the UEFA system, England can claim to have the strongest club sides in Europe. West Germany — who else? — run a close second.

This should, however, not hide one important fact. In the early 1970s England was way ahead of the field, but while the English fell back the Germans forged ahead in the latter part of the decade.

England's annual UEFA average slipped from 11 in the first five years to 7.68 while West Germany's marched on from 8 to 10.46.

UEFA points average 1970-79

1	England	9.39
2	West Germany	9.24
3	Netherlands	8.37
4	Belgium	6.35
5	Italy	6.22
6	East Germany	6.18
7	Soviet Union	6.14
8	Spain	5.85
9	Yugoslavia	4.96
10	Scotland	4.71
11	Portugal	4.60
12	Hungary	4.44
13	Poland	4.24
14	Czechoslovakia	3.90
15	Wales	3.90
16	France	3.45
17	Bulgaria	3.07
18	Switzerland	2.98
19	Greece	2.90
20	Rumania	2.83
21	Austria	2.73
22	Sweden	2.51
23	Turkey	2.17
24	Albania	1.57
25	Denmark	1.56
26	Norway	1.32
27	Irish Republic	1.23
28	Northern Ireland	1.18
29	Finland	0.85
30	Malta	0.77
31	Cyprus	0.64
32	Iceland	0.50
33	Luxembourg	0.37

European Club Competitions 1970-79

		W	F	S	Q
1	England	10	15	20	31
2	West Germany	6	9	21	31
3	Netherlands	6	7	13	19
4	Italy	2	6	12	17
5	Belgium	2	6	8	14
6	Spain	1	4	11	15
7	Scotland	1	2	4	8
	Soviet Union	1	2	4	8
9	East Germany	1	1	4	16
10	France	0	2	3	4
11	Yugoslavia	0	1	4	12
12	Hungary	0	1	3	7
13	Poland	0	1	2	9
14	Austria	0	1	2	4
15	Greece	0	1	2	3
16	Sweden	0	1	1	4
17	Portugal	0	0	2	10
18	Czechoslovakia	0	0	2	6
	Switzerland	0	0	2	6
20	Bulgaria	0	0	0	5
21	Rumania	0	0	0	4
22	Turkey	0	0	0	3
23	Wales	0	0	0	2
24	Denmark	0	0	0	1
	Northern Ireland	0	0	0	1

W = winners, F = finalists, S = semi-finalists, Q = quarter-finalists.

And while England can be said to have dominated the seventies as a whole with an excellent record of ten titles in the European Cup, Cup-Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup, there is no doubt that this position is now threatened by the Germans.

The Germans and the Dutch are the only nations to rival England with six wins each while Italy and Belgium trail way behind with just two.

But the sudden rise of West Germany and the demise of England is shown when one analyses the figures in five-year periods.

In the first five years of the seventies the UEFA Cup virtually belonged to England with Arsenal, Leeds, Tottenham and Liverpool winning it in successive years.

Manchester City and Chelsea also managed to pick up the Cup-Winners' Cup back in 1970 and 1971.

SUCCESS AND BANKRUPTCY FOR COLO COLO

COLO COLO, Chile's most popular club, left no doubt about their superiority in winning their 12th first division title last season as they took the lead before the half-way stage and gradually drew ahead of their rivals to win by 10 points . . . but at the same time they also plunged gradually deeper and deeper into financial trouble and their future is now somewhat uncertain.

Colo Colo scored most goals (72) and had fewest against (24) in their 34 league matches and their 23-8-3 record gave them almost 80 per cent success. They also produced the season's leading scorer — international forward Carlos Caszelly with 20 goals, followed in the scorers table by Brazilian Liminha (Coquimbo Unido) 19, Argentine R. Fabbiani (Aviacion) — brother of Oscar, top scorer during the three previous seasons and now playing in the US — and R. Flores (Naval) both 18.

Carlos Caszelly, the 1979 season top scorer with 20 goals, holds the first division championship trophy aloft after his club, Colo Colo, won it.

Apart from Caszelly — who played three seasons in Spanish soccer — Colo Colo also provided the national team with midfielder Carlos Rivas, defender Luis Diaz, winger Leonardo Veliz and reserve goalkeeper Oscar Wirth, while they had three foreigners in their line-up — defender Atilio Herrera and winger Ramon Ponce (both Argentine) and Brazilian forward Severoin Vasconcelos.

For coach Pedro Morales it was the third Chilean title, having also been successful with Huachipato (1974) and Everton (1976) and the characteristics of his Colo Colo team were attacking soccer without forgetting the (4-3-3) defensive system — the perfect balance — discipline, fitness and the undoubted superior individual quality of several of their players such as the organising and pin-point passing in attack of Vasconselos, the speed and eye for goal of Caszelly, the support and upsetting of opposing defences by Rivas.

Elsewhere, a slow but steady improvement in quality and technique was visible with promising newcomers such as Rivas, Manuel Rojas, Yañez, and Valenzuela fitting in well with veterans Figueroa, Caszelly, Veliz, Osben and others. But the improvement was seen mostly in tighter defences, while most teams relied on counter-attack with forwards lacking penetration. It was also apparent that teams chasing Colo Colo — such as the big clubs Palestino, Universidad de Chile, Union Española, Everton and even runners-up Cobreloa — lacked the fitness to go all out for the 90 minutes, making it obvious that more training and dedication was necessary.

Technique

The improvement was also apparent in the national team which reached last year's South American Championship final against Paraguay, losing only on goals aggregate after a third play-off which ended 0-0, but, as is often not the case, the national team showed better technique and team work than the best club teams.

O'Higgins, who finished fifth, won the play-off between second to fifth placed teams to accompany Colo Colo into this year's Libertadores Cup.

Football pools — fairly new in Chile — have increased interest in the game and the gates were again up this year, but this and the pools proceeds still failed to keep most clubs out of the red because they continued to pay players far more than professional soccer brought in.

While only clubs such as Union Española and Palestino, backed by large foreign communities, and O'Higgins and Cobreloa, supported by mining industries, managed to keep afloat financially, Colo Colo, who draw the biggest gates but can rely on only 3,000 members for a regular income, and other leading clubs could not even pay 50 per cent of the bills out of pro soccer proceeds.

In fact Cobreloa, representing the copper mining zone of Chuquicamata, were the only club to finish with a profit to speak of — $110,000. Their financial security is based mainly on monthly subscription by some 10,000 miners of this largest copper mine in the country situated in the middle of a desert in the north of Chile. The team's nick-name is "Zorros del Desierto" (desert rats) and their players are the only ones in Chile who collect salaries on time.

SOUTH AMERICA by Eric Weil

CHILE TO PROMOTE THIRD DIVISION

The Chilean FA is now taking drastic measures to put all other professional clubs on the same basis as Cobreloa. Apart from projecting the formation of a third division (regional) for the first time — so that clubs relegated from division two have somewhere to go to instead of either disappearing or returning to their provincial amateur leagues — limiting foreign players per match to two per team and promoting goal scoring by awarding bonus points to teams scoring more than three goals in a match but not awarding any points for a 0-0 draw, the FA requires each club to present last year's balance sheet and a budget for the coming season which will have to be strictly adhered to and will have to be within the club's possibilities. The number of professional contracts registered by each club will also be reduced from 30 to 18.

For champions Colo Colo, who, as mentioned in previous *World Soccer* issues, owe banks in the region of $400,000, this has already brought serious problems. They have not been able to get any of the players to sign new contracts and coach Morales, disgusted at the situation with the start of the Libertadores Cup only weeks away, is on the point of resigning. Leading scorer Caszelly wants $75,000 to sign on for another year and says he would rather turn to singing — he sings in a night club — for less. Most of the other players want over $40,000 — which is far more than the club can budget for.

● IN PERU Sporting Cristal was on the point of winning the championship with two matches to go and a three-point lead in the championship round, while popular Universitario, who had actually finished top of the regular championship to start the final round with a three-point bonus (against Sporting Cristal's two points) were out of it.

Meanwhile there have been accusations and counter-accusations of referees being bribed to throw matches — one claimed he had been offered $400 by officials of a team involved in relegation — and the six clubs still in danger of being relegated have asked the league to suspend relegation because of this.

● IN ARGENTINA the lengthy tug-of-war between the Cordoba provincial league and the FA over the Talleres club has finally ended following even government intervention.

Talleres were invited by the Argentine FA to enter the first division under a new rule it made which give clubs reaching the national championship final play-offs twice in three years — Talleres have reached the last six — the right to enter.

The Cordoba league was against losing its strongest club, but finally gave in under a series of conditions which are going to make things harder for Talleres: — 1) That the FA's new ruling is annulled to stop further clubs getting into the first division in this way; 2) That Talleres' participation is only provisional for 1980; 3) That Talleres' home fixtures must not coincide with Cordoba league fixtures — which will mean they will have to play their home games on Friday night; 4) A six per cent cut of Talleres' gate takings to go to the Cordoba league; 5) Three places for the Cordoba league in the next national championship intead of two; 6) The Cordoba league to have a representative on a committee to study the reorganisation of domestic soccer.

This could happen only in a set-up like Argentina's where some time ago the FA created a "monster" — the Federal Committee, to take charge of provincial leagues and this can now over-rule the FA on anv matters concerning clubs belonging to these leagues.

Meanwhile losing first division finalists Velez Sarafield earned the right to join first division and national champions Rover Plate in this season's Libertadores Cup by beating national championship losing finalists Union Santa Fe in a two-legged play-off (0-0 and 3-0). Usually the first division and national champions enter the Cup . . . The close season has so far brought more leading managerial changes than players transfers. Boca Juniors coach Juan Carlos Lorenzo led the way by moving to Racing Club while the top transfer so far is that of ex-Birmingham City and Argentine World Cup defender Alberto Tarantini from Talleres to River Plate for $350,000.

Chilean first division champions Colo Colo. (Standing left to right: L. Herrera, Diaz, Galindo, Inostroza, A. Herrera, Nef. Kneeling: Ponce, Rivas, Caszelly, Vasconcellos, Veliz).

● IN ECUADOR Guayaquil club Emelec, led by Argentine league top scorer Horacio Miori (who totalled 27 goals), won the six-team final round of the Ecuador championship, but only after replaying a match against Manta which they had previously lost 2-1.

This was one of many FA decisions which caused controversy during the season and could result in several clubs (from Quito) not participating in next season's championsip. Universidad Catolica, the vice-champions who actually finished a point ahead of Emelec before the controversial replay, will be Ecuador's other representatives in this season's Libertadores Cup.

● IN URUGUAY the final six-team "Liguilla" was in progress at press-time from which the winner and the club to obtain most points in the season's three tournaments qualifies for the Libertadores Cup.

Peñarol, who won the season's first division and Republica Cup, are already assured of one place again on most points obtained. Nacional head the "Liguilla" and are expected to take the other place again.

● IN PARAGUAY Olimpia became champions for the second year running by winning a final play-off against last season's vice-champions, Sol de America.

Each Club had won one of the season's tournaments and in the final play-off Olimpia won the first leg 1-0 and drew the second 0-0. But the current Libertadores Cup holders as South American champions — who also hold a 1-0 first leg lead over Sweden's Malmoe in the Inter-continental Cup — lost their coach, Uruguayan Luis Cubilla, at the end of the season when he moved to Newell's Old Boys in Argentina. But Cubilla left the Paraguayan champions in family hands — his brother Pedro took over.

● IN VENEZUELA Deportivo Tachira, only in their second season in professional soccer, are the new champions, while their striker, Ferrari, finished as top scorer with 16.

Tachira and Deportivo Galicia had tied first place on points and in last month's *World Soccer* we said Galicia had taken the title on better goal average, but actually Tachira took it on a new rule based on results against each other, because they beat Galicia.

REFEREES – TARGET OF MUCH ABUSE . . .

IN the unmerry month of February, the burning topic of football was the ever-widening gap between managers and referees. Some bosses came out into the open with their accusations, others were satisfied to make sniggering references, often off-the-record, concerning the unfortunate officials.

No after-match Press conference is complete without a joke or a sly remark about the referee, no matter how conscientiously the hard-working official has performed his duties. The arguments and controversies are understandable, because we have here two groups of people with completely different aspirations *vis-a-vis* any given football match.

The referee is primarily concerned with administering the laws-of-the-game, keeping control, and generally satisfying his own conscience that he has done his best. The manager — usually in a highly emotional state — is purely concerned with his own team, the players' performances and the result.

No wonder he sees incidents differently, he wouldn't be human if he wasn't utterly biased. The first salvo in this never-ending war was fired by Bert Millichip, President of the Birmingham Disciplinary Commission.

He said: "All managers were warned in letters at the start of the season about making derogatory and inflammatory comments, but they don't appear to have taken much notice. The number of managers appearing before the disciplinary committee this season is higher than in any other season.

"I want it clear that we have unlimited powers to deal with situations which damage the image of the game. The time is rapidly approaching when some manager is going to feel the wrath of the FA. There could be heavy fines and we can also suspend managers. We feel the decisions of match officials, whether right or wrong, should be accepted by players on the field and managers off the field. If we can clean up the game in this way, then perhaps we will see better behaviour from spectators."

No sooner were these words uttered than they were answered in kind by the manager of Norwich, John Bond: "I know FA disciplinary chairman, Bert Millichip, has said we mustn't say anything about referees, and I agree with him in principle," he said.

"But referees can contribute to whether a manager is successful or unsuccessful, for the difference between success and failure is often a hairline thing. It's all very well telling us we mustn't criticise referees, but that's no solution. If we're not allowed to make comments about officials we ought at least to be able to get together with referees and work out problems."

Bobby Robson added his weight to the argument by asking for the abolition of the card system: "Crowds are calling for the yellow card for every foul committed," he said, "and referees don't show enough discretion. Mariner was booked for the one and only foul he committed on Saturday. It was the same at Bristol City the week before, and at Preston a few weeks earlier. He's made three tackles and gone up to 20 points. The card system was introduced to football to overcome the language barrier in internationals and European club matches. There is no language barrier to overcome in a League match. Of course, if a player persists in fouling, he should be sent off. But cards make the whole thing theatrical."

What are the problems? The laws-of-the-game are explicit enough, and there shouldn't be any confusion about the nature of cautionable offences. I have seen Paul Mariner of Ipswich "tackle" people, and it is not surprising that he gets booked.

It is often said, but not really taken into consideration, that the referee has to make split second decisions. Much easier to judge an incident from the comfort of a seat in the stand or a TV studio. As for being successful or not, I do believe the old truism that controversies even-up during a season, but of course, no manager has ever complained about being "successful" because of a referee's penalty or off-side decision.

As a practising member of the cursed "profession" myself, I am on the side of the referees, and as a neutral observer, I am able to state that the officials are doing an excellent job this season.

Vexed

There is the odd "bad match", but this is inevitable, players, even managers, often have an off-day. However, there is still a great deal of inconsistency in the vexed question of "interfering with the play."

Goals are allowed to stand when a team-mate is clearly in an off-side position, but sometimes, more legal scores are scrubbed out because of a player — miles away from the action — has strayed offside. A great deal depends on the linesman here — some are ready to signal gleefully the slightest infringement, others keep their flags down when they realise that the referee has awarded a goal.

This is still a "grey area", and a very important one, after all, nothing can be more significant than the scoring of a goal and whether it is allowed to stand or not. With cautions, there is a lot more uniformity this season, I am glad to say. Most referees talk to first-time offenders, and only book them if the warning has no effect. On the other hand, I saw a game last week in which the visiting team committed four bad fouls in the first five minutes, and the referee quite properly booked the last offender — at that early stage of the game!

Bad foul

To answer Bobby Robson's plea, this very same player didn't commit another bad foul during the remaining 85 minutes — he got the message. But it is ridiculous to say (as we are often told) that a yellow card or threat of suspension stops a player "tackling" an opponent.

There is such a thing as a legitimate tackle, and there are the deliberate fouls stopping an opponent running with the ball. I trust the referees' judgement concerning a mistimed tackle or a late one, but Robson and several other managers do not share my confidence.

Incidentally, the "card system" was abandoned in Hungary for a few seasons, and the net result was an enormous increase in players being sent-off. This season, they reverted to the "yellow-red" method, and far fewer players are being dismissed.

Some people might say that referees "chicken out" of decisions and hide behind the yellow cards, but I would rather see a player cautioned (in reality, warned about his future behaviour) than wholesale dismissals. Where I part company with referees is in the question of trial by television. I see nothing wrong with analysing an incident with the help of slow motion cameras, the programme editors wouldn't be human if they refrained from doing that.

More often than not, the refs. are proved to be right, and when they are

Leslie Vernon Speaking Personally

wrong, it is understood that they have made an honest mistake. In W. Germany this season, several players were suspended for very lengthy periods indeed, purely on the evidence of TV cameras which spotted off-the-ball incidents. How would you feel if you refereed a match, in which you didn't even caution a player who is subsequently banned for eight weeks for something neither you nor your linesman saw?

Compared with this treatment, Jimmy Hill is a gentle inquisitor, and he very seldom dwells on refs' mistakes. But TV and the Press must be allowed to pose the eternal questions — was it over the line? Was it a penalty? Was it offside? How can we bridge the gap between managers and officials?

Bond calls for an opportunity to discuss the problems, and Graham Kelly, the Football League Secretary, adds his weight to the argument by the proposal that a permanent "Soccer Forum" should be established: "I believe the only constructive way issues like this can be dealt with is to have a regular forum. There are many aspects of the game in which the interests of various bodies, such as the FA, the League, the managers, the players and the referees, overlap.

"Whether it'll come about, I don't know but I've thought for a long time we need something like the Committee of Study which used to sit under the chairmanship of the FA and which sat again recently to draw up a joint approach to the drugs issue. The FA, the League, the Secretaries and Managers and the PFA were involved in that.

Norwich manager John Bond, holding a pistol to his head.

Problems

"If you widen it to include our referees and linesmen's association, with two from each body meeting a couple of times a year, it might be the solution to various problems. At least people would feel they were not being ignored if there was a channel through which their points could be debated". These get-togethers might help, but not a great deal — referees will remain honest, but fallible, managers by definition will stay biased, if perhaps not quite so prejudiced.

The other subject which interested me concerned the Granada TV allegations about the affair of Manchester United. I do not wish to comment on their chairman's involvement, but on the accusations that United bribed schoolboys to join them instead of another club.

Mike Langley in the *Sunday People* defends United by stating the obvious. "If every guilty club were expelled — as the rules permit — the League would probably be reduced to just Crewe and Rochdale."

This is the parrot-cry of every tax dodger or the guy who had parked his car on a double yellow line and was given a ticket for it. Many clubs might be guilty of this practice, but United were caught, and that's a big difference. It is clumsy to leave brown envelopes on kitchen tables, there are more subtle dodges, such as employing Dad as a scout!

Luckily for United, there was an amnesty in 1975 concerning these matters, and according to the TV programme, all these offences were committed before then.

Mike Langley again: "I see nothing undesirable in paying children of unusual talent. It's gone on since the days of Shirley Temple. Does anyone imagine that Lena Zavaroni sings for nothing or that Hollywood has Tatum O'Neal on associated schoolgirl form?" Witty, but incorrect.

These young ladies were all top class performers when they were paid for their services. But with schoolboy footballers, we are only talking about "potential". Indeed, most of the names mentioned in the TV programme were unknown to me — the boys never "made" the League, let alone Manchester United's first team. To sum it up — the League regulations are unrealistic, a reasonable signing-on fee should be allowed for exceptionally talented youngsters.

To avoid under-the-counter payments, the League should stipulate that players under a certain age (18?) can only sign for clubs within a limited distance from their parental homes (let's say a 30 mile radius). If that were the case, even the schoolboys of Crewe and Rochdale would know where to go to become apprentice professionals!

Quote of the month from the dark-skinned Pereira of Atletico Madrid: "I am not a racist, but Real Madrid had two blacks playing for them today, Cunningham and the referee." (In Spain even the players are allowed to voice their opinions!)

AUSTRALIA by Andrew Dettre

A boom season? Well, not quite!

MORE than $1 million sponsorship for the national team's World Cup bid . . . at least that much again towards the organising of the 1981 Coca-Cola/FIFA World Youth Cup . . . visits by Czechoslovakia, England, Wales, Ireland, Yugoslavia, Bayern Munich and perhaps Real Madrid . . .

. . . so it's going to be a boom season, at long last, for Australian soccer.

Well, not quite. Or not so euphorically, anyway.

The positive signs are encouraging and, I guess, one has to be grateful for small mercies. We have had far too many season starts when even the signs looked grim enough for any self-respectiving Roman augur to start shooting the birds.

That remarkable, astute president of the Australian Federation, Sir Arthur George, has once again proved that neither success nor age have blunted his business acumen. He teamed up with the equally remarkable young Patrick Nally of London's West Nally Group to join soccer's big international TV hook-up (mainly for the 1981 Youth World Cup) and then hammered together a sponsoring consortium which will be happy to cough more than $1 million into Australian soccer's depleted coffers.

Part of this loot will be made available to the national team — the quaintly named Socceroos — as they mount their fifth World Cup bid in the hope of snatching one of the 24 births in Spain in 1982. And in case some English readers still smirk about this brazen ambition of a colonial upstart, let me remind them that since 1970 both England and Australia played in one World Cup final series . . .

The man most delighted with this turn of fiscal events is, of course, national coach Rudi Gutendorf, former mentor of a host of illustrious teams including Schalke, Chile, Stuttgart and Hamburg. This tense, dedicated and often abrasive German pro whose long, sad face often reminds you of somebody's aunt, has been hollering and screaming for adequate logistic support for the Socceroos ever since his arrival in September 1978.

Working on a budget he describes as "Taschengeld" (pocket money) and what the ASF probably feels is an absolute extravaganza, Gutendorf has driven, cajoled and threatened his players towards new peaks. In the 1979 season, with only an occasional brief training camp before matches, he led his Socceroos to some noteworthy results, such as 4-1 over Norwich and 2-1 over Cosmos, then took them on a seven-match tour of China and Taiwan, returning home with five wins and two draws.

In the process, he has slotted in quite a number of exciting young local talents, giving Australian-born youngsters more encouragement than they ever had before.

But Gutendorf is aware of Australia's shortcomings; he knows full well that the countries vying for the available two spots in the World Cup finals in 1982 — such as the two Koreas, Japan, Kuwait, Iraq, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia — are making big, often spectacular efforts to jump ahead of us in the queue.

Now Gutendorf will have enough funds to organise training camps, arrange special coaching sessions, compensate players for lost time from work and take his team on further unprofitable tours in order to harden them for the 1981 World Cup elimination battles.

A few of the "Gutendorf Kids" are headed for stardom. One is goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse of Sydney's Leichhardt, another one is the tall Eddie Krncevic of Marconi (also Sydney). Melbourne-born Krncevic, only 19, towering over the Chinese defenders, banged in five of the team's seven goals in a match in Peking. Other exciting young prospects include Sydney-born Mark Jankovics (like Krncevic, son of settlers), the lightning-fast Peter Sharne (both from Marconi), Newcastle's Peter Tredinnick and Arno Bertogna and Adelaide City's Charlie Villani, both born and bred in Ozland . . .

Gutendorf's real problems lie elsewhere. Not yet accustomed to the cosy, chummy, amateurish laissez-faire atmosphere of Australian soccer (neither am I, for that matter, after 30 years here), he keeps rocking the boat, stepping on toes and brusquely telling people off as he goes about his almost apostolic mission.

Not everybody takes kindly to this: some senior members of the Establishment are openly gunning for him. They'd much rather have a nice, polite, pliable coach with atrocious results than this aggressive, obsessed "rude Rudi" with all his triumphs. There have been rumours about Gutendorf quitting in disgust and accepting an offer from Fort Lauderdale but he stayed and will stay until after the present World Cup campaign. In the meantime, more toes will be bruised, some even amputated . . .

The Socceroos' 1980 programme looks stirringly packed. An England "B" team will play in Sydney on June 1, celebrating the centenary of Australian soccer, then a few weeks later Wales, Ireland, Yugoslavia and Australia will take part in a four-nation tournament.

The news of England sending only its "B" team wasn't well received. For many years now, Australia has been trying to make England condescend to a full international: surely one every 100 years can't be such a bloody nuisance. Then it was promised: June 1, 1980, it will be England. And now we know it won't be, as the England squad will be packing its bags for the European Championships in Italy. Well, perhaps in the year 2080, or shortly after that.

While all these exciting developments have been happening — big sponsorship money, Youth World Cup finals, a host of international tours — the domestic front has been bypassed and ignored. Australia's quasi-national league, the Philips League (quasi, as it embraces only four of the six states), has started by the time this story appears (if it ever appears after my slinging off at England). And that's the bad news.

In the breathless turmoil of the last few months with everybody gasping over the gloss and the glamour, our bread-and-butter issue has been neglected. With almost everybody agreeing, publicly or privately, that the Philips League is a deformed child suffering of terminal malaise, neither the Australian Federation nor the clubs quite know how to plot and perform a life-saving surgery.

To give you an illustration. The original intention was to have only four clubs from Sydney in the hope that this could be reduced to three, perhaps even two. So now, after three years, we have five plus one in Newcastle 100 miles away with a sixth, Wollongong (40 miles away) firmly promised a berth for 1981.

While the League prospers in cities with only one or two teams (Newcastle, Adelaide, Canberra), it is ailing in sub-tropical Brisbane (where nobody simply watches anything except the froth on the top of cold beer) and suffocates in Sydney and Melbourne which, between them, provide eight of the 14 teams — an unjustified, uneconomical and plainly suicidal preponderance.

It seems that the guardians of the League have still not made up their minds whether to follow the European tradition or the American pattern in matters of promotion and relegation. Thus it came about that at the end of the 1979 season the second last team (Sydney Olympic) was relegated and the last (South Melbourne) pardoned, without any explanation. To make it even more bizarre: the Sydney team which took Olympic's place, Blacktown City, finished only fourth in the lower State League. Selective democracy? Perhaps. Muddle? Quite likely. But most probably a result of indecision and lack of long-term, coherent strategic policies.

As always on the darkest days, there is a glimmer of hope: ASF chief Arthur George — a pragmatic man with a legal background and enormous business interests — is aware of the problem. The next big project on his plate, he told me, was to revamp the Philips League.

"When?" I asked.

"Rome wasn't built in a day," he quipped.

Which, on reflection, is true. But Pompei was destroyed in just one.

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FROM RAG BA

Players Portrait on ZICO by Keir Radnedge

AS A KID he carried his ball of rags from one street to another, looking for somewhere to kick it around where the neighbours wouldn't complain, where the police wouldn't chase him away.

As a youth he walked the Rio beaches selling popcorn, hoping again that the bullies and drunks would pass him by.

But now no-one in Brazil complains, no-one chases him away. In fact, the reverse. For the street urchin who grew up to fame under the nickname of Zico is a national hero.

And like national heroes in the past, he faces a similar dilemma: To seek a fortune in Europe, or respond to his thousands of fans by displaying his exciting talents where they can see him.

Whichever way Zico decides, he knows he must do so quickly, for on March 3 he will be 27, and he is a man with no illusions about the transitory glory of a footballer.

"Football is a great game," he says. "I've always enjoyed playing, ever since I can remember. But I've also learned over the years that it is a business. It's a means to make one's living. That's why I've always made myself get down to work, even when things have been going badly.

"Fortunately that hasn't been often. Now I'm a hero. But in another couple of years I could be a nobody. A footballer's fame depends on too many things. Tomorrow I could have a road accident, or a really bad injury. Or I could lose my form. For these reasons I want to make the most out of every moment of my career.

"I'm not greedy, please don't give your readers the wrong idea. But football is very, very unpredictable . . ."

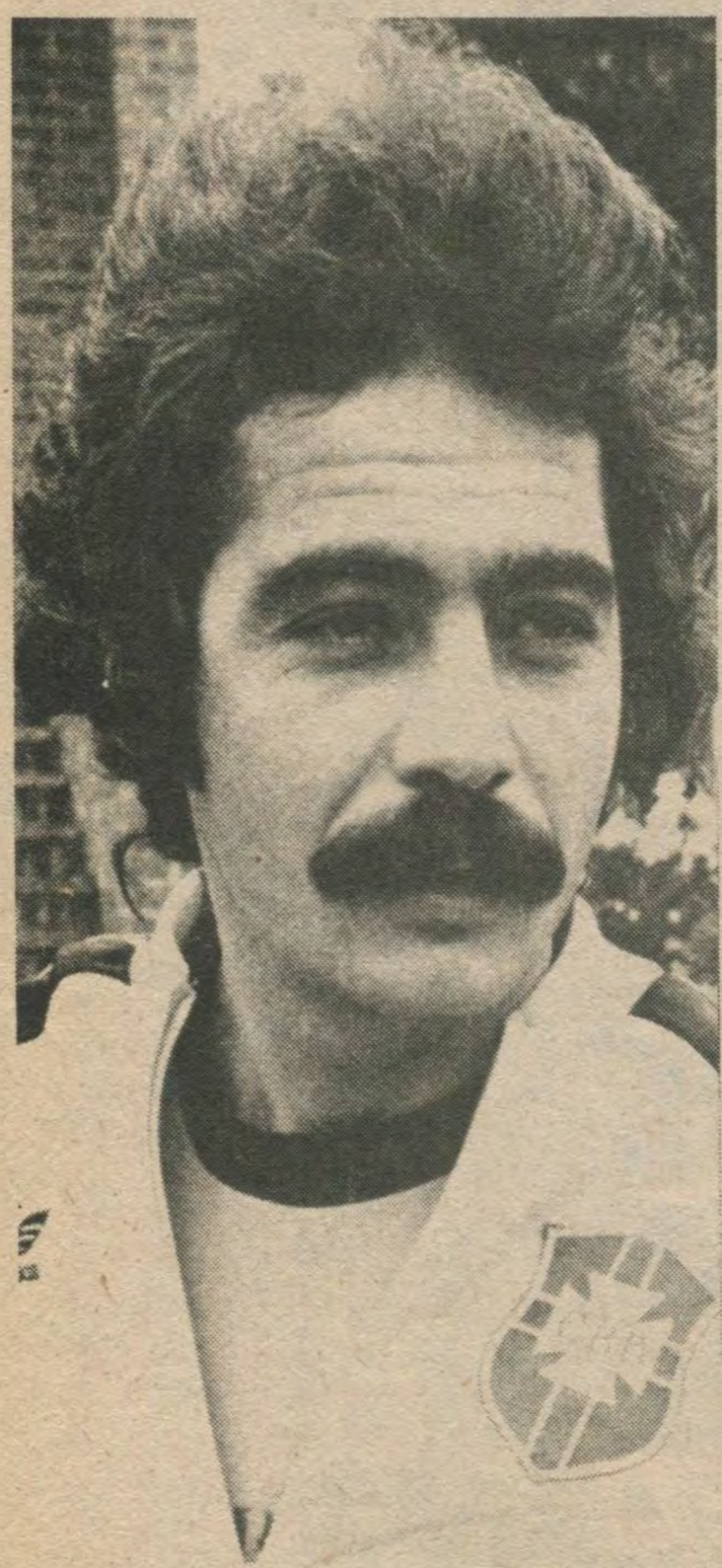
Every young player in Brazil of potential goes through the same hoop — is he the new Pele? Zico had to bear that cross far longer than most. Now, in his mid-20s, he obviously isn't in the same class. But his slight build and bright, lively eyes make people think he is younger than is the case. Consequently, he's been considered a man of potential for longer than he wished.

"I know all about the way I have been compared with Pele. Just because most of the time I've worn the No 10 shirt for Flamengo. But I'm no king. No way. A prince? Perhaps, if that's what the fans want. But really I'm me — Zico, and that's all there is to it. I'm a normal person who loves football and who loves his family. I can't live anybody else's life!"

Zico's fame rests mainly on his goals. But he's an outstanding footballer of skill and vision, able to beat three men on a sixpence and score remarkable solo goals — as in only his second international, against Argentina in Buenos Aires — or in opening up play by shrewd use and understanding of the pace of the men around him.

But there's more to Zico than a mere football brain.

He's passed his accountancy examinations and hopes to have time soon — now Brazilian footballers are to be granted an official break — to undertake the first steps towards an economics degree.



Rivelino — the Saudi Arabians wanted Zico to link up with him.

Best-paid

With the sort of money he's become used to handling on his own behalf, the theory shouldn't come too hard.

For, at around £2,000 a week, Zico is by far the best-paid player in Brazil and one of the most impressively-rewarded in the world. Even the Saudi Arabians couldn't provide a deal tempting enough when they came calling after the last World Cup, hoping to lure him out alongside Roberto Rivelino.

If the pay at home hadn't been so bright, Zico might have been strongly tempted, for he had just fallen out — briefly but awkwardly, as it turned out — with national and Flamengo club coach, Claudio Coutinho.

But leaving home didn't appeal so strongly as it may do now. Home was still Rio, and still close enough to remind him of the childhood days when his nickname was born.

Born Artur Antunes Coimbra, the youngest of five football-playing brothers, the tag of Zico was born in the early evenings when his oldest sister would come out into the street to break up the kids' games of football.

"Come on, Arturzico," she would call, adding an affectionate trill to the name. And it stuck.

Zico recalls: "We lived in a district called Quintino Bocaiuva. We kids used to play in the streets all day, then go down to the beaches if we wanted a change. I couldn't get enough of the game.

"After I'd come home I'd sit with my brothers Ede, Anatunes and Nando — all first division men eventually — and we'd talk of football, football, football."

With such a pedigree, Flamengo didn't need asking twice when Zico asked, at 15, for a trial. But youth coaches Jose Nogueira and Celio de Sousa had their doubts. Skilful, certainly. But — to put it bluntly — he looked undernourished. He was fragile, even brittle-looking.

How could they dare put him into one of their teams?

Skill

The first hard match would surely kill him!

But, to let so much skill go to waste would be a crime. Thus, Zico was sent off to the club's medical centre, for examinations by club doctor Paula Chaves.

The prescription was clear — vitamin pills by the handful, anabolic preparations to help build the muscles, and plenty of meat — more than Zico had known in all his life.

"A year later I was a different person. All right, so I'm no superman. I'm 5 feet 8, and 10 stone. But what I hadn't expected from all the attention was that I found I could shoot so much harder."

It was 1970, while all Brazil was glorying in the achievements of Pele, Tostao and Co at the Mexico World Cup that Zico, unnoticed by all except his brothers, made his first regular appearances in the Flamengo youth teams.

"It was marvellous. Unbelievable. I scored 27 goals in 20 games. The first — my first in any official match for a Flamengo team — I scored on March 18 in a 2-0 win over the Sao Cristobal youth team. I'll never forget the feeling as it went in. That day I knew that football was meant to be my destiny and that for the next 14 or 15 years I'd be tied up in it."

Zico's explose talent hadn't gone unnoticed higher up the club. In 1971 Fleitas Solich, the ageing Paraguayan who ran the first team, called him up for the Copa Guanabara and the national championship. Zico played 15 games, but scored only twice. He was out of his depth as yet, and admitted it.

But back in the youth team he proved that his talent was no mirage, netting 20 goals in 22 matches, a prelude to his first

LL TO RICHES

representative call, playing for Brazil in the Olympic qualifiers. Against Colombia he not only scored the only goal, he played with the wings of genius.

"That was the best game of my life. Now everything was starting to accelerate. I got in to the Flamengo first team; in 1974 we won the championship and all the papers in Rio started saying I ought to be in the national team."

Manager Mario Zagalo didn't want newcomers in the World Cup squad, but following the disappointment of fourth place in West Germany, Zico was in line for rapid promotion. In line, but not in the team.

"Just at that time I got distracted with wedding plans. It was such a mixed-up time. Everyone wanted to know me, I thought my wife and I would never get any peace. It worried me whether all this fuss was fair on my family."

So, it wasn't until 1976 that Zico was first named by Brazil, by new national boss Oswaldo Brandao, for the Copa del Atlantico, and for a debut against Uruguay in the Centenario stadium, Montevideo.

Brazil won 2-1; Zico hit the winner from one of his now notorious free kicks.

"There's no mystery about them, you know. I know I can hit the ball well and I'm always confident too that I can score from free kicks. I never study the wall or the goalkeeper particularly. I just concentrate on the place where I want the ball to enter the goal."

And whatever Zico's skills in play in general, it is his goal-scoring which is the factor that brings the crowds in. In the World Cup qualifiers in 1977 he scored four times in an 8-0 win over Bolivia; a year later and he cracked a double hat-trick for Flamengo in a league game — an achievement the celebrated Maracana stadium had never seen before, not even from Pele. Repeatedly Flamengo's top-scorer in their Rio championship hat-trick and also in the 1977 national championship win, it has always been the more surprising that he has flopped on major occasions.

Pressure

In the Bicentennial Tournament in the United States in 1976 he was making his first major international contact with Europe. But despite a fine goal against Italy he proved a let-down to all the European observers who expected to see if not a new Pele, then perhaps a new Tostao.

Two years later, the pressure ever greater, the failure was even more marked in the World Cup. Brazil were among the favourites, Zico expected to provide the firepower. But before the first round was out he was being dropped by coach Coutinho.

His form was so depressing that, in the perverse way of fans the world over, the blame fell not on Zico himself but on Coutinho. Yet was there any coach in the world to know him better? After all, Coutinho was boss at Flamengo. Certainly something was wrong — and badly wrong. But was Coutinho really to blame, for trying to build a 90-minute European style on skilful Brazilian foundations, or did the fault lie with the players, who just weren't as good as they had been touted?

Zico returned home from Buenos Aires at crisis point. He was also injured, the victim of the Poles.

Much later Coutinho told me: "Zico was caught by a tackle early in the game and fell badly. They took him to the dressing room and he was screaming with the pain. It was so bad with him that at half-time some of the players didn't want to go on, they were so upset. One or two were crying with him."

Disguise

In some ways the injury was a blessing in disguise. Zico missed a Flamengo tour to Europe and when he was fit, much of the World Cup heat had died away. He remained unsettled. The interest of Real Madrid and Internazionale in 1976, and the attentions of Barcelona before the World Cup had awakened in him thoughts that perhaps he would be better out of Brazilian football.

His unrest was revealed in a pointless public attack on Coutinho, a legal move against Flamengo in a contract and terms dispute and then . . . peace, more goals, more titles — both in Rio and the national marathon.

Suddenly he was back to the form of 1976, when he scored 63 goals in 70 official games, and of 1977, when he hit 48 in 56. During the World Cup his free kick talent had deserted him. Now, once again, he was being compared with the great artists, men such as Didi, Pepe and Jair da Rosa.

And it was news of his return to form which prompted Milan to make first tentative moves towards transfer talks last autumn when the possibility of Italy once more allowing foreigners became reality.

It was Milan's power behind the throne, Gianni Rivera, who prepared the groundwork. He knew that Flamengo had been talking in terms of £600,000 after the World Cup when Zico had been injured (!) but he thought he could talk them down.

He had special memories of Zico — for Rivera had been in the Milan team who faced Zico in a Maracana friendly against the Brazilian national side in 1977.

"I've never seen a player with such incredible reflexes," said Rivera later. "We lost 3-0 and he got their second — a goal to which he had absolutely no right. Albertosi, our goalkeeper, had blocked a shot when Zico burst from nowhere to push the ball in. Maldera, who was supposed to be marking him, had barely moved before the ball was in the net."

In fact, Milan, beset by one crisis after another at home this season, had to call off their officials' trip to Rio, though Zico remained the major figure on top of everyone's list of foreigners in demand, no matter that Flamengo steadfastly refused to discuss the possibility.

Zico, himself, has never been as reticent.

With Italian and Portuguese background he admits: "One day I must think seriously about a move to Europe. A player, commercially speaking, is much better off there, especially if he is a foreigner. Italy? Perhaps. My grandfather was Italian and he always used to speak to us of Italy. I'll wait and see."

Whether the Brazilian football revolution will influence Zico remains to be seen. Can new CBF boss Giulite Coutinho's reforms take effect — enforcing a close season and a maximum of 70 games a season, and introducing a full-time national team coach for the first time?

Zico, it was, who unwittingly helped provoke these long-overdue changes. A mysterious injury in the autumn sent him from doctor to doctor, until Flamengo found one with the commonsense to say out loud what many had been thinking: "The problem is pressure. If Zico has to go on playing as many games without proper rest then he will be burned out well before he is 30."

Brazilian football awoke to the realisation that for far too long they'd been grinding their players into the ground, hence G. Coutinho's stand for sanity — which earned him election as CBF boss ahead of the previously all-powerful Heleno Nunes.

Favourite

Who takes over the national team, now Claudio Coutinho is finished with the job? Tele Santana of Palmeiras is favourite, but there's also Mario Zagalo in the running again. Santana would appeal to Zico better. Zagalo's methods have never suited him. It was when Zagalo was boss of Flamengo in 1973 that the young Zico feared he would never score another goal.

With Rivelino departed to Saudi Arabia, Zico is clearly first in line as the new kingpin. The question is: Which challenge appeals to him the more?

To ensure his fortune in Europe . . . or ensure his fame in Brazil.

Either way, he will at least have the opportunity of replying in style to those suggestions that he is a man for every occasion but the biggest.

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Paulo Cesar

PORTUGAL by Arthur Rotmil

Pressure on for Benfica as Sporting go to top

THE national team failed to qualify for the finals of the European Championship and the four Portuguese clubs engaged in European competitions were all eliminated by the second round — this was the sad record at international level which brought widespread disappointment.

Yet, the season began on a high note. Record champions (23 titles) Benfica won two pre-season tournaments, first in Paris where they beat Brazil's Olympic team 2-0 and then the redoubtable Red Star Belgrade by 4-0! And in Gelsenkirchen Benfica defeated Schalke 1-0 and then Liverpool, on penalties, after the score a.e.t. was 1-1.

The departure of international midfielder Joao Alves to Paris St Germain was a blow and could not be compensated by new signings like goalkeeper Botelho and centre-back Laranjeiro, both from local rivals Sporting. Later the Brazilian World Cup star Paulo Cesar joined the club on a three-year contract worth £125,000 to the player. It was thought that the experienced forward would bring much needed experience to Benfica's midfield.

Crisis

This precipitated an internal crisis. Earlier, team manager Mario Wilson resigned, explaining that he cannot successfully combine his club duties with those of national manager. Wilson, incidentally, the father of a Benfica player, replaced the Englishman John Mortimore, who left Benfica and returned home.

Next, the club members staged a protest demanding the resignation of the board, including club president, Queimado and director Martins, who were responsible for bringing Paulo Cesar to Lisbon. As I write, Benfica are still without a manager, while the board's position is shaky. Partly to "blame" for this upheaval are their fierce local foes Sporting, who unexpectedly jumped to the top of the table.

Sporting strengthened their ranks with goalkeeper Fidalgo and stopper Eurico (both swapped from Benfica). Now that their redoubtable striker Jordao has fully recovered and is scoring goals the "Lions" are confident of mounting a real challenge for the League title which Sporting last won six years ago.

Jordao, whose real name is Rui Manuel Trinidade, is now 27, he played formerly for Benfica and is one of the unluckiest footballers in the country. Twice he broke his leg but perservered in his comeback and recently returned even to the national side.

Sporting also parted company with their manager, Rodrigues Dias, who was only appointed last summer in succession to the Yugoslav Milorad Pavic, got the sack. Dias voiced objections publicly to the club's tour of Angola.

The former Portuguese colony has been taken over by a left-wing regime with support from Cuba and the Soviet Union. It used to be a fertile ground for breeding footballers, who were then imported into Portugal for next to nothing. Sporting's new team manager is the former assistant to Dias, Fernando Mendes, while the Yugoslav-born Radisic is looking after the physical training and preparation of the squad.

Sporting were also in trouble with UEFA who fined the club £12,500 and ordered them to play their next European competitive match 60 miles away from home. This followed the disgraceful incidents at the José Alvalade stadium during the UEFA-Cup tie v. Kaiserslautern. The disturbances followed the sending off of Sporting's defender Meneses, who was suspended for three matches and goalkeeper Fidalgo for two. On appeal the fine has been reduced to £5,000 and the 'distance' to 50km (31 miles).

The champions, Porto, also clashed with authority, albeit on the home front. The club refused to release six players for a friendly international v. Spain, claiming that they faced a heavy programme. But the Football Federation threatened to suspend the six men from all club matches. They pointed to a rule which allows them to ban such players from one to six months, and only then the club relented.

The champions have lost their vital linkman Oliveira, sold to Spanish club Betis of Seville. The higher wages paid to top professionals and the low rate of taxation continue to attract the best players from the poorer Portuguese set-up to Spain. As a replacement for Oliveira, Porto acquired the highly-talented Sousa (ex-Aveiro) and Romeu (formerly with Guimaraes and Benfica). Porto also signed the Uruguayan forward Enrique Villalba, 24, who didn't make the grade with Anderlecht, but might fit in among the Latins.

Porto were also reputedly interested in the famous Austrian international Hans Krankl. The 25-year-old striker is regarded as one of the most lethal finishers in Europe, but he fell out with Barcelona, and left Spain for Austria. Krankl won the coveted "Golden Boot" award in 1978, when he scored 41 goals for Rapid Vienna and topped the European leagues scoring charts. After his transfer to Barcelona he became top scorer in Spain with 29 League goals last season. But the current campaign injury and loss of form combined to his disillusionment with Spanish football.

Several clubs have changed their team managers, either before the start, or during the present season. Belenenses engaged Julio Pereira, a former Sporting player and lately team chief of Academico Coimbra. Boavista's new boss is Mario Lino, who came from promoted Portimonense. Vitoria Setubal signed Jimmy Hagan, the former England international, who was previously with Benfica and Boavista.

Entrusted

Victoria Guimaraes hired the Argentinian Mario Imbelloni; Sporting Braga have promoted Fernando Caiado to the position of Technical Director and entrusted the team to the former Sporting Lisbon star, Hilarion.

Last season Porto became the soccer capital of Portugal, with FC Porto the champions and Boavista the cup winners. But now the trend seems to be reversed with Lisbon once again poised to regain supremacy. The champions will at any rate come only from this trio: Sporting, Benfica or Porto.

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

THE England party which contests the European Championship in Italy next June should, despite all the tales and paeans of woe, be one of the most talented we have ever sent to a major competition. At a time when it is customary to deplore the low standard of the Football League, to mourn for the days when, we are supposed to believe, great individual players abounded, Ron Greenwood has at his disposal some of the most gifted footballers Britain has produced for years.

True, there are evident weaknesses. We need a right-back, a new Bobby Moore to play alongside Dave Watson — it should have been Colin Todd, but whatever happened to *him*? — and there is a serious need for a true wing-half — but the talent in attack is super-abundant. Indeed, Greenwood's true problem here is that he has an embarrassment of riches.

Kevin Keegan clearly picks himself — though one hopes he will not be encouraged to pick other people — and one hopes he will be used up front, where he is so much more effective and dangerous. Much the same applies to Trevor Francis, who prefers to play up the front, however keen Forest are — wrongly in my view — on making him play in midfield.

But the third place in what could be a three-man attack — Greenwood having clearly had second thoughts about his so-called 4-4-2 — is another matter. Should it be Laurie Cunningham, who has gradually managed to adjust himself to Spanish football, longs to play for England, and is probably the most talented, unpredictable attacker we have at present?

Or should it be Tony Woodcock, now with Cologne, who can look a splendid left-sided player, fast, dynamic, elusive and sharp, as he did against the Northern Irish in Belfast?

Put Keegan or Francis into midfield and, it is true, you could use both of them. One only hopes that Greenwood will not go back to the witless stratagem of choosing Bob Latchford, cruelly out of his depth in this kind of football and necessitating, with his very presence, an old-fashioned and ineffective kind of football, based on the high cross and the long ball to the target man.

Temperament

In midfield, the emergence of Glenn Hoddle, showing at once against Bulgaria that he has the ideal temperament for international football, gives a further, fine alternative to Ray Wilkins and Trevor Brooking. Wilkins has his critics here, but in Italy Enzo Bearzot admires him hugely. He tends, I think, to do better in international football, against foreign teams, because they stand off him and give him time.

Trevor Brooking, sadly dogged by injury this season, remains an enormously important, intelligent, skilful footballer, the best creative midfielder we have. But I should still dearly like to see one there capable of winning a tackle. No; not Storey, Stiles or Hunter; though I'd be happy with another Alan Mullery. Stevie Williams or perhaps Bryan Robson might well do.

Such a player will be of great value in the opening game against the Belgians, whose own midfield is very strong and, above all, in what may be the decisive match on June 15 in Turin against the Italians. Spain, on recent form, look the weakest team in the competition, desperately lucky that the Yugoslav revival was just too late to be of service.

Conditions

This season they've lost at home not only to the Yugoslavs but to the Danes, and their recent 1-0 win at Vigo against the Dutch was vitiated by severe weather conditions, which led to the referee to suspending the game; and the Dutch to changing back into their everyday clothes. We shall have a closer look at Spain of course in Barcelona on March 26, and the home attack will be strengthened by the return of that inflammable right-winger, Juanito. By and large, however, talent is lacking, the Amancios and Pirris (he's in his final season) have not been replaced and it wouldn't surprise me if, in the Championship, the Spaniards came out kicking.

The Italians usually do, though of course there will be no Romeo Benetti this time, with his formidable feet and still more formidable elbows. Marco Tardelli and others, however, can put it about with the best; as poor Gianni Rivera found last season when Tardelli, in a Juventus-Milan match, flattened him straight from the kick-off. A pity so fine a young player should feel the need to indulge in this sort of thing.

England have three great problems against Italy. First, a tactical one; which applies to the other games as well, not to mention that which might follow them. Greenwood will simply have to make up his mind what tactics he intends to use; and stick to them. Second, the technical excellence, the sheer elusiveness, of the Italian forwards.

When the teams met in Rome for the World Cup eliminator of 1976, Causio and Bettega had the skill to run rings around the heavy English defenders; and now there is the wonderfully talented Paolo Rossi, into the bargain. We all know what can happen to that English defence when good forwards run at it; the Danes showed it up in Copenhagen, the Austrians last June in Vienna.

Without a decent midfield shield in front of it, that back four is all the more vulnerable. Neal, when he's in the Liverpool side, has the protection of Case. Mills, when he plays for Ipswich, isn't usually out on his wrong — right! — foot. Kenny Sansom is surely the man to use in Italy. Third, the onus of man to man marking, insoluble in 1976 but not at Wembley in 1977.

This season, Bettega has been severely out of form, Causio has gradually played his way back to it, largely in midfield rather than up front, while Rossi, so cruelly criticised in his early games with Perugia, has also found his touch again. If Bettega can find it too, Antognoni, who has been playing well for Fiorentina, should be able to make them the bullets to fire.

But Juventus as we know have had a dreadful season, Dino Zoff looks an ageing goalkeeper vulnerable to long shots, and Bearzot has been savaged by the Italian sporting (sporting?) Press for not making changes in his team.

Deeply divided in provincial-geographical terms, the various Italian newspapers promote players from their respective areas. The Romans want Giordano to lead the Italian attack as he is a Lazio player; the Milanese would like to see "Spillo" (Pin) Altobelli, the lanky Internazionale striker who has done so well this season, in the side.

Intense

I still believe that Bearzot and his men will suffer from the fact that he won't be able to get them away from the intense pressure of the Press, television and fans, as he did so successfully in Argentina. There, a weary, demoralised team rose from the ashes to become, at least for its first four games, a magnificent side, dedicated to a concept of attack thought to be dead in Italy. Its example did nothing for the Campionato, which has been gloomier and more sterile than ever this season.

In the other group, I believe the key match will be that between those eternal rivals, the West Germans and the Dutch; it is one which defies analysis, even though the Dutch have lost Haan, Neeskens and Rensenbrink. The West Germans, now under Jupp Darwall instead of gentle, long suffering Helmut Schoen, can be awfully good, as they were against Wales, or deadly dull, as they were against Turkey. As for Czechoslovakia, the holders, I think their team is fractionally over the top; though it will never do to underestimate the Czechs in any major competition, especially when they've as good a manager as Jozef Venglos.

SOCCER CRIS

by Eric Weil

NATIONAL coach Claudio Coutinho accepted responsibility for Brazil's failure to win last year's South American Championship after they had knocked out the weak Argentine line-up, but he also blamed the whole structure of Brazil's domestic soccer:

1. Regional championships with the same clubs also taking part in an ever growing national championship — the last one with almost a 100 clubs; 2. Tired players who find themselves either playing (up to four times a week) or travelling over Brazil's vast territory from one match to the next; 3. The reluctance of club officials to give up players for national team training because of the congested fixture list which also results in the players being too tired and unfit to give of their best; 4. Most badly paid players as admission prices to scoccer games are about the lowest in the world — less than a dollar — kept low by the government for political motives to enable the poorest to attend.

Under the newly formed Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF), which has taken over the running of professional soccer from the Brazilian Sports Confederation and is presided by 58-year-old Giulito Coutinho (no relation), coach Coutinho is unlikely to keep his job, but the new authorities share his views.

The giant national championship — in which big clubs face small ones frequently and the 200,000-capacity Maracana stadium in Rio has sometimes housed only 2,000 people — has not benefitted any club economically, but had been continually enlarged for political motives. The new authorities intend to replace it with a new tournament of three divisions originally formed according to the size, importance and drawing power of the clubs, but with promotion and relegation between them.

Brazil's national coach Claudio Coutinho — on his way out . . . but his advice was taken.

Although this re-organisation had not been finalised at press time, it is expected that a Brazilian national first division would be composed of the following clubs: Flamengo, Fluminense, Vasco da Gama, Botafogo and America from Rio de Janeiro, Palmeiras, Corinthians, Sao Paulo, Santos and Portuguesa from Sao Paulo, Internacional and Gremio from Porto Alegre, Cruzeiro and Atletico Mineiro from Belho Horizonte, Santa Cruz and Nautico from Pernambuco and Vitoria and Bahia from Bahia.

New legislation has also been made for the regional championships. A state with a population of over 20 million (Sao Paulo for example) can have a maximum of 20 clubs in the first division and 28 in the second. States with a population of between five and 20 million (which includes Guanabara and its capital, Rio de Janeiro) can have 12 first division and 16 second division clubs and states with a population of less than five million can have only eight first and 19 second division clubs. There is no limit in third divisions, but over 20 clubs must be divided into regional zones.

Apart from other considerations, the CBF wants a national coach to dedicate himself exclusively to the national team and winning the 1982 World Cup and Coutinho is likely to continue coaching Rio de Janeiro champions Flamengo. Currently in the running to take over are Mario Zegulo, the current Fluminense coach who was in charge of Brazil's World Cup teams in 1970 and 1974, Santa Cruz's Evaristo Macedo and Palmeiras' "Tele" Santana.

BOCA JUNIORS

Reorganisation too late?

BOCA Juniors, one of Argentina's two most popular clubs — River Plate is the other — ended the 1979 season without a single trophy — which was not unexpected, but nevertheless hard to take for the club especially as their eternal rivals, River Plate, ended up with both the first division and national championship titles.

Trying hard to retain the Libertadores Cup (the South American club championship) for the third year, they frequently fielded reserve teams in domestic competition and this was not good enough to gain titles. Their Libertadores Cup campaign ended when they lost to Paraquay's Olimpia in the final. In other words — they fell between two stools.

The writing was already on the wall at the start of the year when financial problems made it impossible to buy some of the players coach Juan Carlos Lorenzo wanted, although they bought others which never fitted in. The cash problem worsened during the season — discontented players rarely got paid on time — as professional soccer continued to cost the club much more than it brought in at the gate. At the same time the club, which once boasted a 50,000 membership and a sizeable income in membership fees, ended the year with only 15,000 members on its books and debts totalling two million dollars.

The club also had other troubles. Years ago they started building a sports complex on reclaimed land on the banks of the River Plate (which belongs to the municipality). Lack of funds — and possibly the effects of continual inflation — stopped work and, among other installations, a proposed 150,000- capacity soccer stadium (intended for the 1978 World Cup finals) never got off the ground. Last year also, the municipality gave the club a deadline until the end of 1982 to finish all projected installations or lose the land.

Alberto J. Armando, president of the club for the last 20 years — a record — minimises the problem and says that the crisis will be resolved. But even before last season was over the club had to announce that it would be slashing its 40 odd professional staff to almost half, that it could not afford to buy new players and that those remaining, as well as the coaching staff, would have to continue on the same salaries next year — which seemed to be asking a lot in a country with an annual 140 per cent inflation rate — while there would also be no signing-on bonuses which in South America seem to become part of the players birth-right.

The first victim of the new economy measures was coach Juan Carlos Lorenzo who, although saying he would do all he could

Changed

THIS season's Libertadores Cup competition will have a much changed line-up compared to last year as most of the clubs which qualified to take part (either by coming first and second in their country's only domestic championship or by winning separate titles) were not in last year's campaign.

For the first time current holders Olimpia (Paraguay) also qualified again as their country's champions and as they have a bye into the semi-finals (as holders), Paraguay can yet name a third club to take part in first round group play — which will come out of a tournament being played at press time between Libertad, Guarani, Cerro Portêo and River Plate (none of whom took part last year either). At press time also, league championships in Uruguay, Peru and Bolivia have yet to finish, although Peñarol are already sure of one place from Uruguay (for the 20th time in the 21-year history of the Cup) and Sporting Cristal have virtually clinched one Peruvian place. Sporting Cristal, like the 12 clubs qualified from the six other countries, did not take part last year. In fact, of clubs qualified so far, Deportivo Tachira (Venezuela) and America de Cali (Colombia), both first-time champions in their respective countries, are in the Cup for the first time.

This year's draw with play scheduled to start first in group one on February 16, is as follows.

Group 1: River Plate and Velez Sarsfield (Argentina) and top two Peruvian clubs in current championship. **Group 2:** Peñarol (Uruguay) and winner of Uruguayan final

IS SPOTS

to help out, was secretly meeting officials of other clubs and before the end of the year — on the day he was expected to renew his contract with Boca Juniors — he joined Racing Club. (Later three players were sold — forward Alvarez to Independiente and forward Rocha and half-back Squeo to Greek and Mexican clubs respectively, which helped towards paying off money owed to players, etc.)

So they gave what seemed like an impossible job of keeping the club in the limelight to Antonio Rattin who had played for the club for 15 years during which time he also captained the Argentine national team in the 1966 World Cup finals in England where he was sent off in the quarter-finals against the host country — the day England manager Alf Ramsay called the Argentine team animals.

Rattin gave up playing 10 years ago when a nagging injury refused to heal and he was 32, worked in the club's office for some time before coaching a number of teams for short periods. The day he took over at Boca Juniors he kept officials and a crowd of reporters and photographers waiting for several hours, then said it was the dream of every professional to be associated with Boca Juniors, but also added that he had never been desperate to manage any club and wasn't now.

Rattin — the last of the great centre-halves — had always been very much of the on-field general during his playing days, but whether he can do the same with a bunch of unsatisfied players from the trainers bench remains to be seen.

Again club president Armando minimises the problem. Every Boca Juniors player has a contract signed covering the current year, he says, and if they are not satisfied with the terms the club can offer they will still have to play and — according to rules — become free agents at the end of the season (as was the case with World Cup defender Tarantini in 1977).

But with the new season only weeks away, none of the players have yet agreed terms and differences between offer and request are as much as 60 per cent in some cases with both sides apparently standing firm.

And the fans — a popular saying goes that half of the country plus one follow Boca Juniors — want titles. Although Boca won the Libertadores Cup in 1977 and 1978, they have not won a domestic title since 1976 when they completed the "double" — national and first division champions. Since then the old enemy, River Plate, has won the first division twice and national once and lead Boca 17-14 on titles won since the start of professional soccer in 1931 — a situation which Boca fans do not stand for.

Juan Carlos "Toto" Lorenzo, last year's Boca Juniors coach — first to leave the sinking ship after the club announced economy measures. He joined Racing Club of Buenos Aires.

Libertadores Cup

round (or runner-up if Peñarol wins). **Group 3:** Deportivo Galicia and Deportivo Tachira (Venezuela), Vasco da Gama de Rio and Internacional de Porto Alegre (Brazil). **Group 4:** Emelec de Guavaquil and Universidad Catolica de Quito (Ecuador), Independiente Santa Fe de Bogotá and America de Cali (Colombia). **Group 5:** Colo Colo de Santiago and O'Higgins de Rancagua (Chile), Sol de America and another Paraguayan team to be named (see above).

As usual, clubs play each other home and away for points in each group with the winner advancing to the six-team semi-finals with holders Olimpia. The semi-finalists are split in two groups of three clubs playing each other home and away and group winners meet in a two-legged final.

● Meanwhile preparations for the "Little World Cup" for previous World Cup winners, scheduled for Montevideo at the end of the year, continue to meet difficulties.

With the 1966 winners, England, already withdrawn and replaced by Holland (losing finalist on the last two occasions), the Uruguayan organisers had to bend over backwards and reduce the schedule to one final match between the two group winners instead of semi-finals and final between the top two of each group to stop losing Italy too. The Italians would not get authorisation to absent themselves for more than three matches in the middle of their league season. . . And Brazil's participation continues to be uncertain.

While Brazilian FIFA president Joao Havelange says his country will take part, Giulite Coutinho, president of the newly-formed Brazilian Football Confederation, which has taken over the running of professional soccer from the Brazilian Sports Confederation, says he is not sure whether their best players will be prepared to give up their holidays — established by law from December 18th to January 15th — to play in the tournament.

Although a provisional draw of the two groups had been made earlier, it was decided at Punta del Este (Uruguay), where the Uruguayan organisers met with FIFA officials in January, to make the draw at FIFA headquarters in Zurich on March 1st. It was fixed however that one group would contain two South American and one European teams and the other two European and one South American, that matches will be played on December 29th and 30th and on January 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th and either 8th or 9th, and that participating countries will receive $150,000 per match with the eventual winner getting another $100,000.

Uruguay, understandably, are taking the tournament seriously and national team coach Roque Maspoli (a former Peñarol goalkeeper) has named a list of 47 players whose transfer abroad has been banned. The national team has also arranged a series of matches in Europe starting on March 16th against Italy in Roma, followed by tour matches against Luxembourg, Switzerland, Belgium and a fifth match to be confirmed against either Yugoslavia, Sweden or Israel.

Players in the news . . .

ZICO was Brazil's top scorer for the third time last year, scoring a total of 89 goals — 65 in league games, 16 in friendlies, seven for the national team and one for a Rest of World selection against Argentina.

GARRINCHA, the former Brazilian World Cup winger (in 1958 and 1962) was interned in a Rio de Janeiro clinic for the second time in a year with hepatic cirrosis brought on by his drinking.

. . .AND MAJOR TRANSFERS

OSCAR, Brazilian international defender (40 caps), from Ponte Preta (Sao Paulo, Brazil) to New York Cosmos (US) for 400,000 dollars. (Full name José Oscar Bernardi).

JORGE OLGUIN, Argentine international defender (39 caps), from San Lorenzo (Argentina) to Independiente (Argentina) for 187,000 dollars.

EDUARDO BONVALET, Chilean half (whose contract had expired), from O'Higgins (Chile) to Fort Lauderdale Strikers (US) for 200,000 dollars (going to player).

ALBERTO TARANTINI, Argentine international defender (40 caps), from Talleres (Argentina) to River Plate (Argentina) for 350,000 dollars.

JOSE YRIGOYEN, Argentine striker, from Millionarios (Colombia) to Independienti Medellin (Colombia) for 200,000 dollars.

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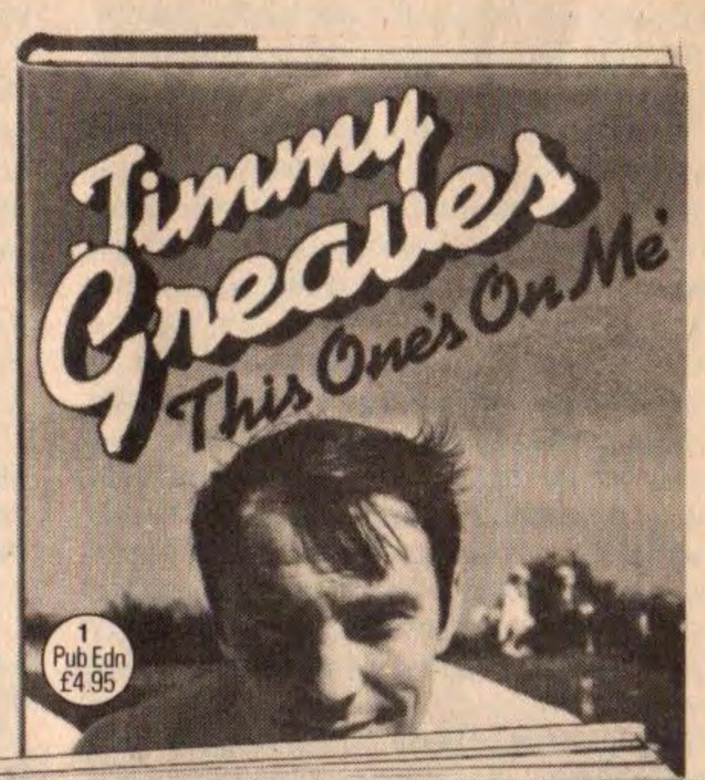

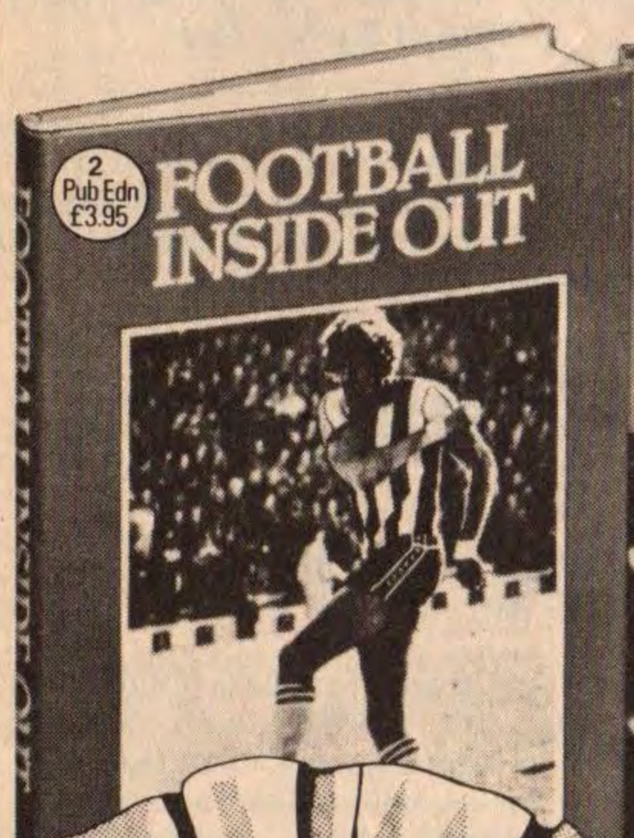

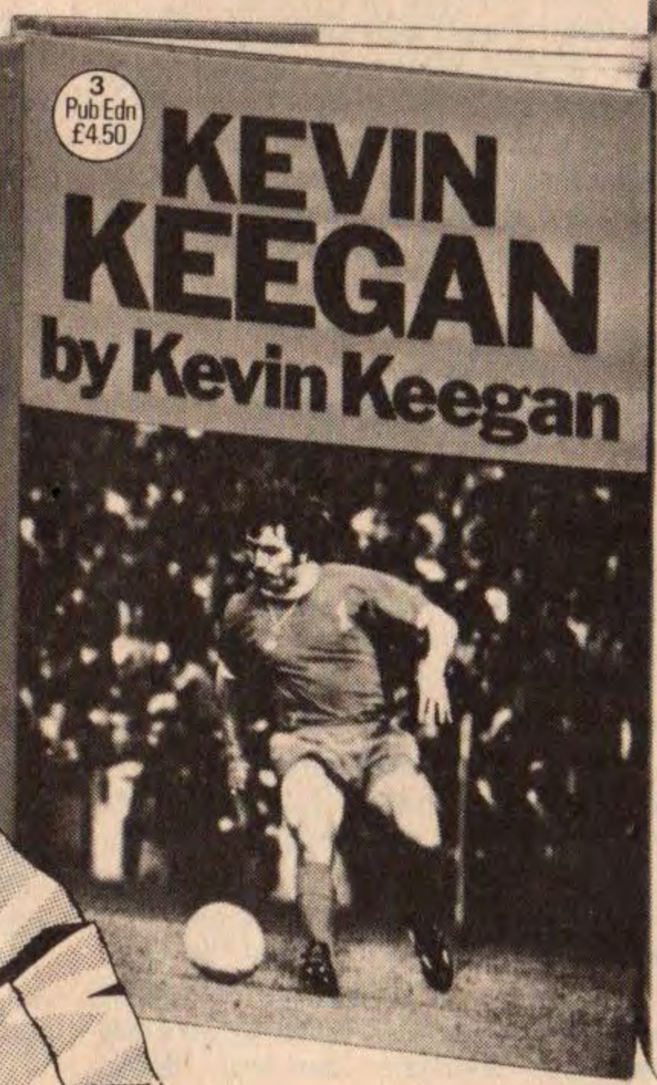

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SPORTSMANS BOOK CLUB

ITALY

by Keir Radnedge

Illegal betting enquiry

THE European finals may be on their way — their proximity emphasised by the draw — but there has been no let-up in the politicking and scandal-mongering in *Calcio*.

Almost eclipsing the draw have been the revelations in several newspapers of players' alleged involvement in illegal betting.

A Rome magistrate has launched an official inquiry into the claims that players put more than £20,000 on the results of single games, then threw away the matches.

Milan the champions, Juventus, and Lazio in their 80th year — only six clubs are older — are the Italian football monuments tarnished by accusation. Already more than a dozen players, including Roberto Bettega, Enrico Albertosi and Bruno Giordano have been interviewed by the authorities.

Milan and Juventus could certainly have done without the fuss. They have enough on their plates at the moment — Milan despite sitting in second place behind neighbours Inter.

The controversial fog-bound match against Napoli — referee Paolo Bergamo admitted his blunder yet was immediately allowed back on the league list — was replayed with Napoli extending their seven-year unbeaten run against Milan at San Siro by winning 2-1.

In the bitter aftermath Milan reserve Fabio Capello, a 1974 World Cup stalwart, attacked a journalist — a stupidity which cost him a £2,000 fine and a month's suspension.

Succeeding stumbles found 40-year-old goalkeeper Ricky Albertosi being made the scapegoat, somewhat unfairly.

As his possible successor, Cagliari's Roberto Corti, said: "If it hadn't have been for him Milan would have gone down two year ago and would never been champions last season."

Milan, rejected too in their attempt to prise Karl-Heinz Rummenigge away from Bayern Munich, are now four points behind Inter and though skipper Alberto Bigon boasts: "We can still catch them," Big Chief Gianni Rivera doesn't think so.

Condemnation

His bitter and angry condemnation of first-team spirit didn't go down too well, however. After all, if Milan were wrong to stay out of the transfer market last summer, and wrong to name inexperienced Massimo Giacomini as coach, whose fault was it but . . . Rivera's?

Inter march on happily enough, so crisis-free for once that presidential counsellor Sandro Mazzola could permit himself the contrasting luxury to Rivera of making a general appeal to "clean up *Calcio*." The words will no doubt fall on deaf ears, but Mazzola was forthright enough in demanding an end to the ban on foreign players and coaches — I jumped the gun somewhat in last month's *World Soccer Diary* — and a return to entertainment.

There was certainly plenty of action when Inter faced Perugia — with the leaders winning 3-2 despite two goals from Paolo Rossi in a game which saw Perugia's Dal Fiume sent off and no fewer than 10 players booked!

Rossi remains top of the goal-scoring charts, with 13 goals followed by Inter's outstanding Sandro Altobelli on 10. Perugia, runners-up last season, are now seventh, a slide skipper Franco Vannini blamed on the introduction of Rossi. It's hard to agree. Rossi is not only the league's top scorer, his goals have come in vital games and at vital moments, as with the one which beat his old club and suitors, Juventus.

Poor Juve have struggled even more than Milan and Perugia. A defeat by disorganised Fiorentina left them 12th out of the 16 clubs, just one point above the relegation zone.

Who were the scapegoats? Same as at Milan, starting with veteran goalkeeper Dino Zoff, who against Pescara set a league record 230 consecutive games, breaking the mark set by one-time Juve full back Alfredo Foni.

Giovanni Trapattoni also came in for his share of criticism. He offered to quit, but was told to carry on, ringing the changes to return Franco Causio to his original position of inside right and putting belated faith in the youngsters. Perugia's Ilario Castagner nevertheless remains tipped to take over from Trapattoni at the season's end.

Looking on down the league is hardly a rewarding experience. Nils Liedholm has lifted Roma up to fourth place, but the likes of Torino, Napoli and Fiorentina continue to make heavy weather of their programmes.

Napoli's directors, apparently undisturbed by revelations that they haven't paid any municipal rent increases on their San Paolo stadium for at least 10 years, go on giving monthly and well-publicised votes of confidence to Brazilian coach Luis Vinicio. Yet behind his back they have approached Juan Carlos Lorenzo in the hope that foreign coaches can return next season.

Action from an Italian league match between Juventus and Roma. Marocchino (right) scores the second for Juventus in their 2-0 win.

Torino lost centre forward Francesco Graziani with a broken nose against Pescara — and could lose him permanently if West Germany's Stuttgart step up their interest — while midifelder Beppe Greco then fell victim to food poisoning and Graziani himself, on return, had a training scuffle with Patrizio Sala which hardly improved morale.

One thing about *Calcio*, it's never dull!

GOOD news for national team manager Enzo Bearzot in the European finals draw.

Though Bearzot has delayed dangerously in renovating his 1978 World Cup side, the arrangement by which they will play their final group game, against Belgium in Rome, an hour or more after England finish against Spain, means they will have a target, should the two nations once again be neck and neck.

Inter fans are clamouring for the introductions of Altobelli. But in place of whom isn't certain. Surely not for the superb Rossi? And Roberto Bettega is always confident of a talent for scoring vital goals against England.

Bearzot's biggest worry, I believe, is in the area where Italy are feared the most — defence. Can the Juve block hold firm until after the finals?

"Why not?" says Bettega. "There's a world of difference between the experience and pressures in league and international football. That's why Bearzot knows he can rely on us."

All Italy hope he's right.

FRANK SJOMAN looks at IFK Gothenburg—

SUCCESS SIDE OF SWEDEN

THE club with the biggest following in Sweden is IFK (Idrottsforeningen Kamraterna) Göteborg, one of the founder members of the League and regularly the best supported team in the country.

They have participated in 47 of the 55 First Division seasons completed since 1924 and indeed even in the championships which were played prior to the start of the League, they took three titles in 1908, 1910 and 1918 when the city of Gothenburg dominated the game.

Gothenburg is still the footballing capital of the country because crowds are no bigger anywhere else. As an example when in 1975 they were chasing the Second Division championship title their average crowd was a remarkable 23,700. And the following year 50,690 turned up to watch IFK play local rivals GAIS in a Second Division derby.

The club has established a reputation for good, entertaining if erratic football. Immediately after their fourth championship success in 1969 they were relegated and it took them six years to get back and they struggled until a change of management arrived in 1973.

Both on and off the pitch a lot of hard work was put into bringing a new image to the club, chasing the right type of players in an effort to produce inventive, attacking football for which they had been justly renowned.

IFK sparkled and a new phrase was put into the Swedish language about the game — "champagne soccer".

With stars like Bjorn Nordqvist and Ove Kindvall recaptured from Holland and Torbjorn Nilsson endearing himself to the fans, they scored 72 goals in 26 matches in 1975 but still failed to gain promotion. Though they scored four fewer the next term it was enough to go up with the fans flocking to see them wherever they went.

Ralf Edstrom came back from Holland in 1977 and helped sustain interest, though not the player of earlier times, until going to Standard Liege in 1979.

Last year Göteborg appointed Sven-Goran Eriksson as coach. A 34 year old he has been at variance with the ideals of the fans since like most managers he wants results before anything.

Before long he had introduced more tactical awareness, work-rate and tightened the old cavalier style.

The result has been that while Göteborg are harder to beat they are also harder to watch and though the side was challenging for the title all last season the average gate dropped by 3,000 to 13,000, but was still the best in the country.

Thus the over organised and totally predictable but so far successful football being provided in Sweden by teams like Malmo and Halmstad is proving the stranglehold for champions-elect.

Facts and Figures

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE 1979
(Swedish play calendar-year, Spring-Autumn)

Halmstads BK	26	8	5	0	22- 9	4	7	2	16-12	36
IFK Göteborg, Gothenburg	26	6	5	2	24-14	7	4	2	20-10	35
IF Elfsborg, Borås	26	8	2	3	19-11	6	3	4	16-13	33
Malmö FF	26	7	3	3	19-13	5	5	3	11-11	32
IFK Norrköping	26	8	4	1	27-11	3	5	5	17-17	31
Hammarby IF, Stockholm	26	6	2	5	27-18	5	4	4	19-18	28
Östers IF, Växjö	26	7	5	1	22- 8	2	5	6	10-20	28
Kalmar FF	26	7	3	3	27-13	1	5	7	15-26	24
IFK Sundsvall	26	5	4	4	17-13	3	3	7	14-28	23
Djurgårdens IF, St'kholm	26	6	4	3	16-11	1	4	8	12-24	22
Åtvidabergs FF	26	6	4	3	16-10	1	4	8	4-17	22
Landskrona BoIS	26	7	3	3	21-11	1	2	10	11-30	21
AIK, Stockholm	26	2	7	4	15-17	3	3	7	9-18	20
IS Halmia, Halmstad	26	1	4	8	8-22	1	1	11	7-36	9

Göteborg's scorers: Torbjörn Nilsson 11, Glenn Holm 8, Tommy Holmgren 5, Olle Nordin 4, Ralf Edström 4, Anders Ahlberg 4, Dan Corneliusson 2, Ruben Svenson 2, Reine Almqvist 1, Glenn Schiller 1, Glenn Strömberg 1, Tord Holmgren 1.

The Cup run (1978-79) that took Göteborg to Europe

— Smedby AIS (Div. III) a, 6-0
— Örebro SK (I in 1978) a, 5-4 a.e.t. and penalties
— IF Elfsborg (I), a, 2-1
— Mjällby AIF (II) a, 4-0
— BK Häcken, Gothenburg (II) h, 5-1
— Västerås SK (II) h, 1-0
— Åtvidabergs FF (I) in Stockholm, 6-1

Göteborg's line-up in the final: Lindberg — Hysén — Schiller, C. Karlsson, Olausson — Strömberg, Nordin, Edström (J. Karlsson 59), Holm — Nilsson, Tommy Holmgren (Ahlberg 65).

Scorers: 1-0 Strömberg (6), 2-0 Holmgren (17), 3-0 Edström (22), 4-0 own goal (26), 5-0 Holmgren (28), 6-0 Nilsson (43), 6-1 Johansson (69).

Attendance: 9,457.

ANOTHER CUP WIN IN SIGHT

In Sweden the cup is played autumn-spring with most of the earlier rounds played in the autumn and only the semi-finals and final left over to the spring. However, this season also three quarter-finals will be played in early April. IFK Göteborg are involved in one of these. Here are the team's results so far in the current cup:

— IFK Östersund (III) a, 6-0
— Mjällby AIF (II) a, 1-0
— AIK (I) h, 4-1
— Djurgårdens IF (I) h, to be played in April

LEAGUE-PLACINGS SINCE 1960

1960	8	1971	3 (Div. II)
1961	3	1972	2 ,,
1962	3	1973	4 ,,
1963	5	1974	5 ,,
1964	9	1975	2 ,,
1965	5	1976	1 promoted
1966	4	1977	6 (Div. I)
1967	9	1978	3
1968	9	1979	2
1969	1 Champions		
1970	11 and relegated		

GÖTEBORG IN EUROPE

Champions Cup		
1958-59 x)	Jeunesse d'Esch	0-1, 2-1, 5-1 (at home)
	Wismuth aue	2-2, 0-4
1959-60	Linfield	6-1, 1-2
	Sparta Rotterdam	3-1, 1-3, 1-3 (neutr. gr)
1961-62 x)	Feijenoord Rotterdam	0-3, 2-8
1970-71	Legia Warszawa	0-4, 1-2

x) In 1958 and 1961 IFK Göteborg qualified through leading the table at half-time, in the middle of the summer when the draw was made. Since then the rules have changed so that the team that actually wins the league in the autumn (Sweden play spring-autumn) go into Europe but has to wait half a year before doing so.

Cup Winners' Cup

1979-80	Waterford FC (h)	1-0	Holm (pen)	6.193
	Waterford FC (a)	1-1	Tord Holmgren	
	Panionios Athen (a)	0-1		
	Panionios Athen (h)	2-0	Nordin, Tord Holmgren	15,711

past and present

Among the many famous players who have worn the blue and white stripes of the club one of the finest was Filip Johannson a feared centre-forward in the 1920's. He scored 329 goals for IFK, fourteen in 16 full internationals for Sweden and still holds the League scoring record with 39 goals in 22 matches in 1924-25.

The legendary Gunnar Gren played for IFK from 1941-1949 before becoming a professional with Milan and his namesake Gunnar Andersson went to Marseille in 1950 where he twice became top scorer in the French First Division.

In the 1970's big names like Bjorn Nordqvist, Ove Kindvall and Ralf Edstrom all turned out for the club but none of them mentioned matched the popularity of Bertil "Bebben" Johannson.

He was the epitome of all that the club stood for as he was a superb ball player who could and would do anything with the ball and to his opponents as a result of his skills.

"Bebben" reigned supreme in the 1950s and 1960s and though deceptively slow he was capped only four times by those who considered work rate more important than class.

From inside-left he directed the team's play, schemed and scored goals, entertained and delighted the crowds. He was deadly with free kicks and his magical left-foot could bend the ball anyway he wanted.

Though never an out and out marksman, he still managed 162 goals in 267 First Division matches and twice finished as the League's top scorer. In 1969 the year after he had finished as a player he coached IFK to their fourth title.

Johansson was so highly thought of in the city that according to a local joke he was noted as the greatest sportsman in the world. His only real challenger was Eddy Merckx, but "Bebben" edged the Belgian out by one point, presumably because he could nut-meg an opponent, something that Merckx never did!

Gothenburg record book

SOME FACTS ABOUT IFK FOTEBORG (GOTHENBURG)

Founded: 1904.
Ground: Nya Ullevi — built for the 1958 WC and with a capacity of 53,000.
Record attendance: 50,787 in 1959 for a local derby versus Örgryte IS.
Average attendance 1979: 13,320 — highest in Sweden but 3,000 down on 1978.
League Champions: 1935, 1942, 1958, 1969.
Cup wins: 1979 in first ever final — 6-1 versus Atvidabergs FF.
Coach: Sven-Göran Eriksson — 1979 was his first season in charge after having arrived from Degerfors IF. Eriksson is only 34 years old.
Captain: Olle Nordin.
Colours: Blue- and white-striped shirt, blue shorts, blue stockings with a white band.
Change-colours: All red with blue and white trimmings or all white with blue trimmings.
Nickname: "The Angels" or plainly "Bluewhite".

ALL-TIME LEAGUE TABLE
(50 teams have played in the first division since 1924)

	Seasons	Points
1. AIK, Stockholm	53	1,299
2. Malmö FF	45	1,286
3. IFK Norrköping	47	1,246
4. IFK Göteborg (Gothenburg)	47	1,223
5. IF Elfsborg, Borås	46	1,088
6. Helsinborgs IF	42	1,019
7. GAIS, Gothenburg	41	942
8. Djurgårdens IF, Stockholm	34	853
9. Örgryte IS, Gothenburg	32	738
10. Landskrona BoIS	28	595

THE PLAYERS

GOALKEEPERS

Odd Lindberg (31 years old — no caps) — a Norwegian, who for many years has played in Sweden. Joined IFK in 1979 from Örebro SK to help out in an injury crisis, became an ever present and did so well that his loan has been prolonged at least during the spring. Still lives in Örebro, some 200 miles from Gothenburg.
Bengt-Åke Karlsson (-0) — after having been second-choice for Östers IF during many years he joined Alvesta in the second division. In 1978 he was picked up by Göteborg where he did well until suffering a broken leg that autumn. Has not played since but will be fighting for his place.
Thorstein Olafsson (28-13 caps for Iceland) — One of many Icelanders to play in Sweden, Olafsson joined IFK from IB Keflavik in December 1979. Is anxious to meet Arsenal as he would like to get revenge for the goals put past him by Everton and Tottenham in previous European matches.

DEFENDERS

Reine Almqvist (30-4) — He started as a centre-forward and packing one of the hardest shots in Sweden was topscorer in the league in 1969 and 1977. Unlucky with injuries he nevertheless won Championship medals with Göteborg in 1969 and Atvidaberg in 1973. Became a midfielder and last season a sweeper, where his vision and good technique is valuable. Returned to Göteborg from IFK Sundsvall in 1976. 91 goals in 194 first division matches.
Glenn Hysén (20-0) — a very promising sweeper who joined Göteborg from Warta in Gothenburg in 1978. Having played 17 times for the Swedish Youth-team, he made his debut for Göteborg in 1979, deputising so well for the injured Almqvist that the latter may struggle to get his place back. A fine ball player, calm and unruffled.
Conny Karlsson (26-0) — a big strong central defender, who came from IFK Oskarshamn in 1975. Though there are no frills about his play, he has played four times for the Swedish U-21-team. Good in the air, he has improved his tactical awareness under the new coach. Twin brother of midfielder Jerry.
Reine Olausson (30-0) — joined the club as early as 1971 from Sarö near Gothenburg. A very dependable defender who has played in several different positions but now is firmly installed as left back.
Ruben Svensson (26-0) — a big transfer from BK Derby in 1978, Svensson is known as an adventurous right back who likes to go forward all the time. Very good on the ball and with good crosses but not entirely safe defending.

MIDFIELDERS

Glenn Holm (24-0) — another big buy, from Örebro in 1977. Usually a left sided midfielder but has also played left back. A very cultured left foot, which he uses to great effect on free kicks and corners. Penalty-taker and good passer of the ball. Four U-21 caps. On his day very good to watch but a little moody.
Tord Holmgren (22-2) — already one of the best players in the team, a tireless worker who together with his brother Tommy joined the club from little Gällivare above the Polar circle. Became the most northerly-born player to be capped by Sweden when he played versus Hong Kong and Malaysia last autumn. Good shot, nine U-21 matches and included in the World Cup-40 for Argentina.
Jerry Karlsson (26-0) — Twin brother of Conny he also came from IFK Oskarshamn in 1975. Doesn't have a regular place in the team but mostly on the substitutes bench. In Sweden they are allowed two team changes in each game. Has played twice for the U-21 team.
Olle Nordin (30-19) — team captain and a regular for the full international side, he played for Sweden in the last World Cup. Nordin started as a forward but through his career with IFK Norrköping and IFK Sundsvall he became a midfielder. The workhouse of the team, very strong, good header of the ball and good shot. 49 goals in 192 first division matches.
Glenn Schiller (19-0) — one of several young players from the club's own youth teams to break through last season, he is usually a defensive midfielder but can be a defender too. Was twice capped at U-21 level last season.
Glenn Strömberg (19-0) — another fine prospect and an own product, he is an attacking midfielder or forward. Strömberg too played twice for the U-21 in 1979 and in his first season in the first team played 24 of the 26 matches.

FORWARDS

Dan Corneliusson (18-0) — 17 times a youth international he was hailed as the discovery of the season when scoring in both his first matches. Injuries put him back some but this strong, fast youngster from the islands outside Gothenburg should develop into a very good player indeed. Good technique but naturally lacks experience.
Tommy Holmgren (20-0) — younger brother of Tord who has already played six U-21 games and seems certain to follow his brother into the full national team. Became a regular in 1979 with five goals in 22 appearances.
Torbjörn Nilsson (25-13) — by far the best player in Sweden last season, a complete footballer, schemer as well as scorer, brilliant technician. Nilsson joined IFK from Jonsered in 1975 made an immediate breakthrough and scored in his first full international v. Finland in 1976. Joined PSV Eindhoven in 1977 but returned to Sweden and IFK half a year later rather disillusioned. Took a year to find his former self though he played in the 1978 World Cup. Has blossomed again in 1979 and is now better than ever. 22 goals in 56 first division matches, 34 goals in 49 second division matches and six goals in his 13 full international matches.

WORLD SOCCER DIARY . . . WORLD SOCCER DIARY

WHATEVER one's opinions of the pros and cons for an Olympic boycott, one conclusion from the affair is clear for all to see: That sport's once-sacrosanct ability to bypass politics is dead.

And the row following Russian action in Afghanistan only makes it more likely that in the years to come sporting events of every kind may fall prey to political protest.

Whether you are in favour of football in the Olympics — and I'm not — it is a fact that what is happening regarding the Moscow Games later this year could one day happen to the World Cup.

The threat was implicit before the 1978 Finals in Argentina, with several Dutch players staying away for a mixture of motives, personal and political.

When FIFA president Joao Havelange says that politics should steer clear of sport he is whistling in the wind. Football is steeped in politics of its own as he should know from his overthrow of Sir Stanley Rous in 1974.

★ ★ ★

TRIED to catch an interview with Belgian star Francois Van der Elst.

"But I'm afraid he doesn't speak English," said an Aderlecht official. "That's all right, I can get by in French," I replied.

"Not much use," came the reply. "Van der Elst doesn't speak much French either." Belgium's Flemish influence is clearly considerable.

★ ★ ★

THE ALLEGATIONS surrounding Manchester United and chairman Louis Edwards made headlines abroad as well as in England.

The disclosures by a Granada TV programme — claiming that Edwards had been less than scrupulous in the way he obtained share control of United and extra business for his meat company — created less of a stir than the allegations relating to money paid to the parents of schoolboy soccer stars.

What I found difficult was explaining to a number of foreign magazines exactly what was wrong with youngsters being paid, in effect, signing-on fees.

The stories of cash and even businesses provided in return for a signature, are legion. So why not bring it all out and above board? Why should a youngster have to be underhand about cashing in on his ability?

The clubs are the ones taking the gamble. After all, how many of England's successful youth team players, even, make the grade on the full-time circuit?

★ ★ ★

REMARKABLE how English football still believes it knows better than the rest of the world.

Nikki Jovanovic, for several years a pillar of Red Star and Yugoslavia at right back and latterly in the middle of the defence, made his Manchester United debut in midfield . . . and looked lost. Alberto Tarantini won his World Cup medal as Argentina's left back . . . and was immediately put into midfield by Birmingham. Ricardo Villa attracted Argentina's domestic record transfer fee and a World Cup squad place for his ability in midfield . . . and spent a year looking morose and miserable in Tottenham's attack. Just plain illogical.

★ ★ ★

SOME 18 months ago administrators in Denmark were holding their heads in their hands, wondering just how much of a blunder they'd committed by throwing over amateur soccer.

Crowds were down, there was general disappointment at the standard of play and the failure of the national team to show any sort of response to the chances at home.

The temptation for instant judgments were, of course, enormous. But, as we warned in these columns, it would have been unfair to dismiss the semi-pro switch as a failure until after around five years.

At the risk of appearing to beg that advice, attendance figures for last season do seem to on the upturn. There was an increase last year of nearly 25 per cent in crowds for first division games.

The total shot from 661,000 for the 240 games to 822,000, creating a new average of 3,425. Top club average was the 6,550 of new champions Esbjerg and the best single crowd the league record 14,000 who saw Odense against Köge.

The poorest crowd was the 237 who saw the relegation zone struggle between Skovbakken and Hvidovre.

★ ★ ★

WAS IT coincidence that Peruvian internationals Raul Gorriti and Victor Hurtado were sent home after an unsuccessful trial with Leeds in the same week all 11 players of a Peruvian team were sent off in a domestic Cup-tie?

The name of the team who caused a scandal when their players sat on the goal-line in protest at a penalty award? — *Los Terribles!*

★ ★ ★

CONTRASTING fortunes for two of Brazil's great 1958 World Cup-winning team, Pele and Garrincha.

While Pele considers the possiblity of yet another comeback with New York Cosmos, and takes out a few minutes of his golden time to refuse an offer to become Brazil's Minister of Sport — or so we're told — poor Garrincha struggles for life itself.

Manoel Francisco dos Santos, given his nickname after a flighty little bird, was perhaps the greatest right winger of all time.

Not content just to create goals with his pace and bewildering body-swerve, he could score them as well. And it was his all-round ability which triumphed to win Brazil the 1962 World Cup, after Pele had been sidelined by injury.

Pele had trouble enough hanging on to the ensuing fortune. Garrincha's cash was never going to last long. The boy who had surgery even while a child to straighten his legs, left his wife and seven daughters for a nightclub singer.

Children of their own and some more adopted, followed. But it wasn't Garrincha

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Tarrantini (right) with C

whose earnings supported them. He appeared in the 1966 World Cup Finals, a shadow of the player he had been.

Back in Brazil he flitted from club to club. A year ago he was taken seriously ill after collapsing during a veterans' match. Now he has just been hurried to hospital again, suffering from a form of cirrhosis.

What next?

★ ★ ★

ERWIN KOSTEDDE, the first coloured man to play for West Germany when this son of a Gi led their attack briefly five years ago, has had a new lease of life with little Laval, in the French first division.

At 33 he is the league's joint top scorer with 15 goals, despite still living in West Germany. After a game he drives to Paris, flies overnight to Frankfurt, then drives 130 miles home to Bielefeld. "My wife doesn't fancy living in France," he says.

★ ★ ★

IT MAKES you wonder . . . when Alberto Tarantini wanted to return home to Argentina from Birmingham, he hoped to join River Plate.

However, Boca Juniors, his previous club,

TICS— RE IS SCAPE

Carrascosa of Huracan.

reminded everyone concerned that Tarantini — under a gentleman's agreement — could return only to any *other* club.

Which Tarantini duly did, to Talleres of Cordoba.

Yet now, little more than six months' later, Talleres have sold him to River for a mere £60,000. How convenient for River and for Tarantini.

Was there more to his move from Birmingham to Talleres than took the eye?

And ... while on the repetitive subject of English clubs and foreigners, there was more than may be revealed about Aston Villa's sudden interest in Hans Krankl.

It may be safe to tell all once the deal has finally fallen through or been completed successfully.

In the meantime Krankl trains with Rapid Vienna hoping to be allowed to return there on loan at the very least — and refusing to shave until Barcelona have sold their rights in him.

★ ★ ★

OFFICIALS of the Iron Curtain countries have had informal talks about a limited opening of their own borders to allow both an interchange of players and a swap of referees for big games.

The only 'foreigners' registered at the moment are a bunch of Russians appearing for East German second division sides.

★ ★ ★

THIS will be Decision Year for us, say Colombian football administrators, referring to the 1986 World Cup.

The situation is possibly more worrying than Argentina at the same stage, for while the Colombians have busied themselves with a host of reports on their ability — or lack of it — to stage the finals, no concrete work has been done to improve stadia, facilities or accommodation.

At the moment their chances appear in doubt. It is generally agreed that even if they can stage the finals, it will only be the 16-team variety, not the 24-finalists type we'll see in Spain.

That being the case, Joao Havelange might think again about his apparent change of heart and wish to stay on as FIFA chief beyond 1982. If Colombia cut back on the number of finalists, he could find a number of third world chickens coming home to roost.

IN BRIEF

OBITUARIES: *Ernst Ocwirk* . . . who died in Vienna, aged 54. "Clockwork" Ocwirk, as the English called him, was the last of the great Austrian old-school centre-halves.

Between 1947 and 1956 he won 62 caps, leading Austria to third place in the 1954 World Cup Finals and playing a captain's role in the FIFA XI who drew 4-4 against England at Wembley in 1953.

His career began with small clubs Wolfrum and Florisdorfer AC before he joined FK Austria in 1947, winning the league three times and the cup twice. After the 1954 World Cup he joined Sampdoria Genoa, and later became their coach after ending his playing career back with FK Austria.

After coaching in Italy, West Germany — at Köln in 1971 — and Austria he fell ill in the mid-1970s. Last year both legs were amputated.

Sven Simon . . . who died, a suicide, in West Germany at 38. His name was well-known in its own right as a credit for outstanding football photography. What was not known by the public at large was that he was in fact son of the West German newspaper tycoon, Axel Springer.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? . . . *Just Fontaine.* Moroccan-born centre forward brought to France in the early 1950s by Nice. Sold to Reims in 1957 at 24 as replacement for Raymond Kopa. Played twice for France, unimpressively, between 1956 and 1958 when he got into the World Cup team only because of injury to Rene Bliard. Fontaine took his chance — scoring a Finals record 13 goals. The effects of leg fractures in 1960 and 1961 forced him into a premature retirement and brief stints as players' union chairman, national team manager, and boss of Paris Saint-Germain until his recent appointment in charge of the Morocco national team.

WATCH OUT FOR . . . March 2: Olimpia v Malmö (World club cup, 2nd leg) . . . Mar 4: Euro u-21 ch'ship quarter final, 1st leg — Scotland v England (Aberdeen) . . . Mar 5: European club quarter finals, 1st legs — Olympic qual: Spain v Belgium (Almeria) . . . Mar 8: African nations ch'ships start (Nigeria) . . . Mar 12: Italy v Portugal (prov) . . . Mar 13: Olympic qual: Italy v Turkey . . . Mar 15: Italy v Uruguay (Rome) . . . Mar 18: Belguim v Uruguay . . . Mar 19: European club quarter finals, 2nd legs — Olympic qual: France v Belgium . . . Mar 22: African nations' ch'ship final . . . Mar 25: Under-21 — Scotland v Portugal (Edinburgh, prov) . . . Mar 26: World Cup group 2 — Cyprus v Rep. Ireland — group 6 — Israel v N. Ireland — Euro ch'ship, group 2: Scotland v Portugal (Edinburgh, prov.) — France v Holland (Paris) — Switzerland v Czechoslovakia (Basel) — Spain v England (Barcelona) . . . Mar 27: Olympic qual: Yugoslavia v Italy.

WE TOLD YOU . . . 5 Years Ago, that Holland and Belgium had tentatively offered a joint staging of the 1978 World Cup should Argentina quit . . . Lazio players engaged in a punch-up with fans during training . . . Portugal's friendly with Russia was called off because of the political situation.

10 Years Ago, that . . . Brazil centre-forward Tostao had returned to Houston for a check-up on his injured eye . . . Benfica's stadium was shut by the FA after fans rioted . . . Helenio Herrara said Italy should reopen to foreigners . . . in Spain Ronnie Allen's Bilbao hammered Real Madrid 5-0.

15 years ago, that . . . Josef Mirko, ex-Trnava centre-half, took over as new Czechoslovak national boss . . . Valeri Voronin was chosen Soviet player of the year . . . Miljan Miljanic was added to the Yugoslav national team coaching committee . . . Libya and Algeria quit the 1966 World Cup, leaving Africa unrepresented . . . some Scottish clubs were up in arms about the introduction, led by Morton, of 12 Scandinavian players into the league.

NAMES IN THE NEWS . . . NINO ARRUA was elected Paraguay's Player of the Decade . . . WOJTIECH RUDY was named Poland's Player of the Year . . . Porto coach JOSE PEDROTO called for a referees' match fee of £100 . . . STEFAN KOVACS will head a four-man Rumanian national team committee . . . Blackburn's TIM PARKIN joined Malmö for £30,000 . . . LEV YASHIN is to run a goalkeepers' coaching course for Malmö . . . Swiss goalkeeper ROGER BERBIG has pulled out of the national team because of pressure of medical studies . . . New York Cosmos sold DENNIS TUEART back to Manchester City — and signed up HENNES WEISWEILER as coach . . . HANSI MULLER turned down Inter-Milan . . . Werder Bremen sacked coach WOLFGANG WEBER . . . JUAN CARLOS LORENZO quit Boca Juniors for Racing BA . . . ANTONIO RATTIN got the Boca job . . . River Plate signed JUAN CARLOS HEREDIA from Barcelona . . . ROBERT SARA, captain of FK Austria, retired from the national team . . . JAN JANSSENS was chosen Belgian Player of the Year . . . Brazil's 1970 World Cup winner, CLODOALDO, was given a free transfer by Santos . . . ATANAS MIKHAILOV was named Player of the Year in Bulgaria.

FRANCE

by Andre Duclos

Kostedde overhauls injured Onnis . . .

SAD for Delio Onnis, wretched luck for Monaco; but they are most unlikely to get their centre-forward back before the middle of March. This means that they were unable to use him from early December onwards; a shocking blow when you realise that when a severe knee injury put him out of the game for so long, he was top scorer in the League with no fewer than 15 goals. Since then Onnis, himself now in his thirties, has been overhauled by the 33-year-old Erwin Kostedde, who has been having such a surprisingly good season with the little Laval team.

A further complication for Onnis has been that his contract is up for renewal at the end of the season. Only a couple of years ago, his club were trying to tempt the big West Bromwich centre-forward Cyrille Regis across the Channel but in the end Onnis kept his place; and went on scoring an abundance of goals. An Italo-Argentine, he rivals Carlos Bianchi for his prolific consistency. Without him, inevitably, Monaco have been seriously hampered in their quest for the League Championship.

Onnis himself, a pleasant, modest, well-balanced man, has taken things very philosophically. He says he never knew how many friends he had till his recent adversity. This has been a great consolation. When he recovers, he says, his motivation will be as great as it has ever been in his professional career. He pays tribute to the coaching of Monaco's Banide; his training, he says, is so well suited to himself and his needs that it might have been worked out with him in mind.

Whether or not he stays with Monaco after the end of this season, he says, he wishes them every possible success, hopes they will be champions again, and believes that they will be. The club President, Dr. Campora, has damped down rumours that Monaco are already looking for another striker, such as an Argentinian star. One of these days, he has said, it will certainly be necessary to replace Delio Onnis, but it is by no means sure that it will be next season, especially if he finds form again in March. Meanwhile, "it is towards youth that we shall direct our search." Sad to think that had Onnis not suffered his knee injury, there could hardly be any question about Monaco letting him go.

In the meanwhile Kostedde has confounded all those who felt Laval were buying a burnt-out veteran. The black German — son of an American serviceman — a West German international formerly with Dortmund and with Standard Liège, found it hard to settle at Laval at first, and his wife found it more difficult still.

She actually moved back to Germany at one point, but she has now returned to France, even though she has not established herself permanently. Kostedde in the meantime has been enormously effective and seems to be enjoying an Indian summer.

If Onnis has been *hors de combat,* at least we have Joao Alves back, playing for Paris Saint Germain. Badly injured early this season, the cleverer little black-gloved Portuguese inside-left was gravely missed by the Parisian club. Alves returned for his club's January match against Laval, which they lost 3-1, with Kostedde getting the third goal from a penalty.

As everybody knows, said Alves afterwards, if you are out of football for a long time you lose everything, above all your rhythm. What he found missing in his first League match — he couldn't really count the previous friendly against the Champions, Strasbourg, was his vivacity, the ability to go past a man, draw another defender, and leave a colleague unmarked.

But when you have the intelligence and the sheer professionalism of an Alves, such things tend, in time, to take care of themselves.

Strasbourg now face those two very difficult matches against Ajax. The Dutch must be favoured, but let us not forget that this is not the Ajax of Cruyff, though it may be the Ajax of Krol, and that with an opportunist of the calibre of Carlos Bianchi, everything is possible. Even without Wagner, one of their best attackers, Strasbourg gave Nantes a very good run for their money in the League and were exceedingly unlucky to lose, 2-1.

Meanwhile, the debate over Platini continues. When the programme *Foot 2* conducted a poll among its audience, as to who was the best footballer in France, the Saint Etienne man just strolled away with it. He got 54 per cent of the votes, and the two who followed him, believe it or not, were Henri Michel and Christian Lopez with a mere 6 per cent each. Yet when *FRANCE FOOTBALL* chose the best French footballer of the year it was Maxime Bossis, who in the *Foot 2* poll clocked up the derisory percentage of 2, finishing in 8th position.

World Cup dates

THE EUROPEAN championships in Rome this year may be uppermost in our minds but already there is plenty of talk about the 1982 World Cup competition.

And to keep the interest going we have provided the finalised World Cup fixtures and dates for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland:

Group 4 (England, Hungary, Switzerland, Rumania, Norway)

September 10, 1980:	England v. Norway
September 24, 1980:	Norway v. Rumania
October 15, 1980:	Rumania v. England
October 29, 1980:	Switzerland v. Norway
November 11, 1980:	England v. Switzerland
April 29, 1981:	England v. Rumania
	Switzerland v. Hungary
May 13, 1981:	Hungary v. Rumania
May 20, 1981:	Norway v. Hungary
May 30, 1981:	Switzerland v. England
June 3, 1981:	Rumania v. Norway
June 6, 1981:	Hungary v. England
September 9, 1981:	Norway v. England
September 23, 1981:	Rumania v. Hungary
October 10, 1981:	Rumania v. Switzerland
October 14, 1981:	Hungary v. Switzerland
October 31, 1981:	Hungary v. Norway
November 7, 1981:	Switzerland v. Rumania
November 18, 1981:	England v. Hungary

Norway v. Switzerland — date still to be decided.

Group 6 (Scotland, Sweden, Portugal, Northern Ireland, Israel)

March 26, 1980:	Israel v. Northern Ireland
June 18, 1980:	Sweden v. Israel
September 9, 1980:	Sweden v. Scotland
October 15, 1980:	Northern Ireland v. Sweden
	Scotland v. Portugal
November 12, 1980:	Israel v. Sweden
November 19, 1980:	Portugal v. Northern Ireland
December 12, 1980:	Portugal v. Israel
February 25, 1981:	Israel v. Scotland
March 23, 1981:	Scotland v. Northern Ireland
April 24, 1981:	Northern Ireland v. Portugal
	Scotland v. Israel
June 3, 1981:	Sweden v. Northern Ireland
June 17 or 24, 1981:	Sweden v. Portugal
September 9, 1981:	Scotland v. Sweden
October 14, 1981:	Portugal v. Sweden
	Northern Ireland v. Scotland
October 28, 1981:	Israel v. Portugal
November 18, 1981:	Northern Ireland v. Israel
	Portugal v. Scotland

From Derick Allsop in Split

Diplomatic Ivic tips Hamburg

Surjak

HAJDUK SPLIT are one of the least fancied teams left in the European Cup, but their preparations for the quarter-finals scarcely smack of indifference.

They meet a Hamburg side now widely tipped to lift that giant trophy, a feeling Hajduk coach Tomislav Ivic doesn't argue with.

Such diplomacy is, however, commonplace among the Eurocrats and the Germans will underestimate Ivic's players at their peril.

Hajduk, out of domestic action because of Yugoslavia's mid-winter break, built up to the Hamburg tie with a carefully planned programme of friendly matches.

They began against Manchester United and then had fixtures scheduled with Dinamo Zagreb (two), Milan, Bayern Munich and Anderlecht.

Not that United gave them a stiff sparring session. Hajduk and their supporters welcomed England's first winners of the European Cup like members of the fan club.

But in that magnificent giant oyster of a stadium, trapped between the blue Adriatic and the snow-splashed mountains, the only pearls were Yugoslavian.

Hajduk subjected United to their biggest defeat against European opposition. Victory in this match might not have been their season's priority, but a 6-0 thrashing was not their idea of a jaunt.

It is true that two of the goals were from the penalty spot and at least two more were assisted by United's incompetence. Yet with more care in the area Hajduk would have riddled United's reputation with further goals.

Bemused Yugoslav onlookers asked me whether this was a genuine Manchester United side, or just some cheap hotch-potch of reserves. It was, indeed, the recognised senior team who at home were chasing Liverpool for the League championship.

Hajduk were simply in a different hemisphere, controlling, turning, passing and breaking with a speed and accuracy United couldn't comprehend.

Before the match Surjac and Muzinic were being linked with United and the former, in particular, played like a man out to impress. Manager Dave Sexton, who introduced Nikola Jovanovic as a second half substitute, insisted, however, that he wasn't in the market for them.

Most of the damage was caused by the imaginative Cukrov (who certainly impressed Sexton) and the explosive 21-year-old Zlatco Vujovic.

The twin of another talented Hajduk international, Zoran, he harried Martin Buchan into conceding both penalties and scored a splendid goal himself.

Ivic graciously played down the victory. "It doesn't really mean much," he said. "Many of the goals were bad for United. They would not give away goals like that every week, certainly not in competitive matches.

"Obviously I was pleased with our performance. After the break we needed to play top teams, that is why we arranged to play United. But the real business has still to come.

"Hamburg will be a different thing completely. The European Cup, man-for-man marking and a Hamburg side I believe is just now the best in Europe.

"Nottingham Forest, of course, are still good and will be difficult for any team to beat. But I think Hamburg are just a little better.

"We are working hard for this tie and have been doing special training. We have worked a lot on the ball and the skill and technique of our players is improving all the time.

"They are still learning the game, though, particularly at the highest level. Hamburg's youngest player is the same age as our oldest player. That gives them a big advantage. Experience means so much, especially in the European Cup.

"On top of all that they have Kevin Keegan. He wants to do well in Yugoslavia, doesn't he? He is an even better player coming from midfield. He is so strong and determined all the time. You cannot shake him off the ball. There is no doubt he will be a serious threat."

A product of Ivic's first spell at Hajduk was Buljan, who joined Hamburg at the same time as Keegan. Ivic had a two-year stint with Ajax and returned to Yugoslavia in 1978.

Now, he believes, Ajax are also ready to challenge for Europe's premier club title. The 46-year-old coach says: "They must have a good chance this year.

"They are older and therefore more experienced than when I was there and, like Hamburg, they are much better-equipped for this sort of competition.

"Of the other clubs Real Madrid will be strong because the final is on their ground and they will be trying so hard to make it. The standard now is very high."

And what of Hajduk's future, with or without Surjac and Muzinic? "Our players are developing and as far as I know these two will leave next year when they are 28. Where they will go I honestly don't know. I will be concerned with the players staying and I believe they will continue improving."

● Real Madrid's tie with Celtic will be a bruising, explosive affair, according to Manchester City team boss Malcolm Allison.

City played a 'friendly' in Madrid at the end of last year and apart from a football hammering they also found themselves in a brawl and had two players sent off.

Allison now predicts: "They will be just the same against Celtic as they were against us. That's the way they are.

"There will be two players sent off, mark my words. It will be a hell of an affair and Celtic had better know what to expect."

WEST GERMANY

by Arthur Rotmil

BREITNER THE MOST POPULAR

THERE was mixed reaction in West Germany to the draw for the European Championship finals. National team manager Jupp Derwall was pleased that his side avoided Italy, against whom the Germans never liked playing. Nevertheless, their group also includes the holders Czechoslovakia and World Cup runners-up Holland, while Greece is an unknown quantity, quite capable of upsetting one of the fancied teams.

Most comments were guardedly optimistic and expressed hope that there will be a West Germany v. Italy final, on June 22 in Rome. Many experts were surprised that England was seeded instead of Czechoslovakia. England had done nothing in the last two World Cups and hasn't qualified for the European Championship finals for 12 years, whilst the Czechs are, after all, the reigning European champions. Needless to say that this maltreatment of Czechoslovakia caused some unfavourable comment in most Continental countries.

The West German Football Federation (DFB) will pay out altogether DM300,000 (£75,000) to players who helped the national side into the European finals. Never before has success against such minnows as Malta, Turkey and Wales been so richly rewarded. The top bonus of DM15,000 (£3,750) will be paid to those eight players who took part in all six qualifying ties. The remaining 20 men will receive fees reduced by DM3,000 (£750) for each game missed. Further special bonuses are in store for the internationals after the European finals, depending of course on how well the team performs in Italy.

The standing of the national side is once again very high. Most of the international polls published at the end of 1979 by European agencies, sports papers and periodicals have placed West Germany's national team as Number One in Europe. Only three countries remained unbeaten last year, West Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia, but the Germans seem to be regarded by everybody as the top team.

Since winning the World Cup in 1974, West Germany played exactly 50 internationals, losing only five. Remarkably, in that period 68 players were used, of whom 48 were new caps, that is over 70 per cent. The last 12 matches were under the new team manager Derwall, who is still unbeaten. Such a marvellous series was only bettered twice before in German soccer history: 16 games undefeated between 1936 and 1938 and 13 matches without loss from 1975 till 1976.

The present run is all the more astounding since in the period in question there was not only a managerial change. Such stars as Beckenbauer, Overath, Gerd Muller, Netzer, Grabowski, Breitner and now Sepp Maier, have left the international scene. New names like Kaltz, Stielike, Rummenigge, Fischer and Hansi Müller came in to complete the generation changeover. From the team that won the World Cup, Overath, Müller and Grabowski never played again in national colours. And only one man is today first choice: Rainer Bonhof! Of the World Cup 22, in 1974, there are apart from Bonhof, now only goalkeeper Nigbur and 'libero' Cullmann in the national XI.

The usual half-yearly ratings produced by the country's most authoritative sports paper, *Kicker-Sportmagazin,* show three West German players in the "world class" category. The paper is normally almost embarrassingly modest about the *Bundesliga's* best footballers, but nevertheless, bestowed the highest accolade on Paul Breitner (Bayern Munich), now a midfielder, Manfred Kaltz (Hamburger SV), a full-back and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Bayern Munich), a forward. Of the foreigners active in the *Bundesliga* only the Korean Bum-Kun Cha (Eintracht Frankfurt) and Kevin Keegan are rated world class, but the Asian was placed first — ahead of Keegan!

Franz Beckenbauer — returning to the Bundesliga?

Refused

But when it comes to popularity stakes, then Breitner overshadows all midfield players in Germany. He was a member of the World Cup winning side in 1974, but a year later he fell out with the DFB officials and has since refused to play for the national team. In a poll conducted by *Kicker-Sportmagazin,* Breitner received 49 per cent of the votes cast for the most popular midfielder. Hansi Müller (VfB Stuttgart) came second with 13 per cent and Keegan third with six per cent.

Keegan's financial arrangements with Hamburg could lead to an internal crisis at HSV. The fact that the England captain has negotiated with general manager Günter Netzer a special transfer fee for himself, seems

Tony Woodcock with FC Cologne President Herr Peter Weisand.

to have escaped some of the Hamburg directors. Keegan followed the example of the Dane, Allan Simonsen, who worked out a fee of £450,000 when transferred from Borussia Moënchengladbach to Barcelona. The remaining £90,000 the player pocketed himself.

Keegan has agreed with Netzer that his fee will be £375,000, when he leaves at the end of the season — as I reported in *WORLD SOCCER*, February issue — the rest, to be finalised with the new club, will go to the player direct. But now the former Hamburg president and general manager Dr Peter Krohn disclaims any knowledge of these arrangements and he bought Keegan in 1977. In Hamburg most officials and the media are under the impression that the club will collect at least £500,000 for Keegan.

Bayern Munich were pleased to announce that brilliant international forward Karl-Heinz Rummenigge will remain with the club. After lengthy and protracted negotations Rummenigge wants to forget all about the tempting Italian offers and he is to extend his contract in Munich till 1985. It is thought that Bayern will find him a sponsor, so that he can safeguard his future in a new professional capacity.

Sad loss

But Bayern suffered a sad loss when their world famous goalkeeper Sepp Maier reluctantly retired from active football. Maier, 36 on February 28, was badly injured in a car crash last July. He was hoping to stage a comeback, but now on doctors advice he has decided to call it a day. The popular Sepp is unable to run for more than a couple of miles without feeling dreadful and persistent pain.

Maier achieved in his soccer career more than ony other 'keeper in the world. He has really won every honour the game has to offer (only Beckenbauer and Müller equal his trophies). Maier has winners' medals in the World Cup (1974); European Championship (1972); World Club championship (1976); three European Champions Cups (1974, 1975 and 1976); Cup Winners' Cup (1967); four German championships (1969, 1972, 1973 and 1974); four German Cups (1966, 1967, 1969 and 1971); he gained 95 caps for his country, was "Footballer of the Year" three times (1975, 1977 and 1978). He played for Bayern from 1965 till his accident in 1979, in 473 out of 476 Bundesliga matches.

This includes a world record series of 442 consecutive League games. Between August 1966 and June 1979, Maier has not missed a single Bundeliga match!

But he shouldn't have any worries over his future. The qualified locksmith (!), now owns a tennis centre in Munich, and a flourishing advertising agency. He will collect at least £140,000 insurance money and, of course, the DFB granted him a testimonial match on June 3. This will feature Bayern Munich against the full national team and should bring in a bumper pay-out. He may have to give up first class football, but the doctors allow him to practice his second love — tennis.

Fans everywhere will miss Maier's acrobatics and clowning, as well as his extraordinary sayings and jokes which a company in Munich is about to publish in booklet form.

Beckenbauer, Müller and now Maier — the three outstanding figures in West German football, three world stars who contributed so much to the successes of Bayern Munich and the national side in the 'sixties and 'seventies, have all left the club which made them into household names wherever soccer was played. Truly an end of an unforgettable era.

Beckenbauer's recent brilliant display for the international XI at Dortmund in aid of the UNICEF (children's fund) has raised speculation that "Der Kaiser" might make a comeback in the Bundesliga and even in the national side. But Germany's record capped player (103 internationals) quickly dispelled any notions of resuming at the high level. He will remain another year in America with New York Cosmos and then finish his playing days in Swiss football — in that country he has already established a new home, not least on account of the most favourable tax situation.

There were several sensational results in the Third Round of the DFB-Cup. Three of the country's most famous clubs were eliminated by lowly opponents. The champions, Hamburger SV, were beaten 2-0 by Kickers Offenbach; League leaders Bayern Munich crashed at Bayreuth 1-0, while Borussia Mönchengladbach went out to Karlsruhe by 1-0 a.e.t.

The Fourth Round pairings were: Karlsruhe v. Fortuna Düsseldorf; VfB Stuttgart v. Eintracht Frankfurt; Borussia Dortmund v. Bayer Uerdingen; FC Homburg/Saar v. 1860 Munich; Kickers Stuttgart v. Kickers Offenbach; Bayreuth v. TuS Langerwehe, or Hertha Berlin; Schalke v. Osnabrück and 1.FC Köln (Cologne) v. Darmstadt.

Bundesliga leading scorers, after 19 games: Burg Smüller (Borussia Dortmund) and D. Müller (Cologne) each with 15; Nickel (Borussia Mönchengladbach) and Rummenigge (Bayern Munich) each 12; H. Müller (VfB Stuttgart) 10; Hrubesch (Hamburger SV) and T. Allofs (Fortuna Düsseldorf) each 9; K. Allofs (Fortuna Düsseldorf), Hölzenbein (Eintracht Frankfurt) and Vöge (Borussia Dortmund) each 8 goals.

NORTH AMERICA by Colin Jose

STATES CAN BEAT MEXICO

CANADA, the United States and Mexico will play their World Cup preliminary round games during October and November of this year. It will be the fourth time that the three nations will have met in a World Cup preliminary round, and the ninth time that the United States and Mexico have played off.

This time, as in 1976, the three teams will contest two places in the second round of the CONCACAF zone. In 1976 Mexico and Canada advanced with the United States being eliminated, then from the second round Mexico advanced to the finals only to be outclassed in Argentina.

However, as soccer grows in popularity in the United States the pressure on the United States team to reach the finals increases and the American players will be expected to get at least into the second round against the top two teams from the other CONCACAF groups.

Just like last time this will not be an easy task for the United States has not beaten Mexico in a full international since 1934, and although American soccer has improved in recent years the United States is still no better than on a par with the Mexicans if that.

Canada on the other hand upset the Americans last time with a 3-0 win in a play-off in Haiti, and even though the Canadians have not played a full international in almost three years they will not be easily eliminated. In fact this group is so evenly matched that one should not be surprised if it is Mexico that is eliminated.

In the past two years the United States has made two tours to Europe as part of their preparation for the World Cup and their main benefit from this will have been experience which so many American players so badly need.

In the three internationals played as part of the 1978 tour the US played a scoreless tie with Iceland in Reykjavik, lost 0-2 to Switzerland in Lucerne and 0-1 to Portugal in Lisbon. In 1979 they were beaten 0-3 by France in Paris and 2-3 by the Republic of Ireland in Dublin. Offsetting this was a 2-0 victory over a weakened Hungary in Budapest.

The World Cup games are being played late in the year so as not to interfere with the North American Soccer League schedule for it is almost certain that both the Canadian and United States teams and some of the Mexican team will be selected from clubs in the NASL.

Ray Lewington of the Vancouver Whitecaps, goes past Dave van Veen of Tampa Bay Rowdies.

In Canada the Canadian Soccer Association has announced the formation of Soccer Canada, an organisation that will work towards producing the best possible team for Canada. The committee will comprise six members from the CSA and six from the three Canadian clubs in the North American Soccer League, who have agreed to pay their players while playing for their country.

The series of games will open probably in Toronto on October 18 or 19 (depending on television coverage) with Canada playing Mexico. This will be followed by a game between the United States and Canada in the US on October 25 or 26, with the return game between the two nations on November 1 or 2 in Vancouver. Mexico and the US will meet in Mexico on November 9, and Canada will travel to Mexico for a game on November 16. The final game will take place in the United States on November 22 with the US playing Mexico.

Interest

Meanwhile, in the North American Soccer League, the Rochester Lancers have finally decided to stay in Rochester for at least one more year, after months during which it seemed that the club might be sold and moved to Montreal. This means that the NASL will retain the same look in 1980 as it had in 1979.

On the indoor scene interest seems to have waned after the initial novelty had worn off and attendances are down in both the NASL and MISL. Crowds in the two and three thousand range are now commonplace with the odd exception.

In the MISL the New York Arrows appear to be the strongest team and they lead the Atlantic Division while Houston heads up the Central. Many players who normally play for NASL clubs during the summer are spread throughout the league making it difficult to keep track of just who is playing for whom.

Over in the NASL indoor loop the Tampa Bay Rowdies lead the Eastern Division with the Minnesota Kicks ahead in the west. Here again it is hard to keep track of the players for clubs with indoor teams are borrowing players from teams that do not have indoor teams. Hence, we have players from the Vancouver Whitecaps playing on loan to the Los Angeles Aztecs and so on.

One notable new name on the indoor scene is that of Eusebio who has signed for the Buffalo Stallions of the MISL. Unlike Pele who retired while he was still at the top, Eusebio continues to drag his career out moving from one club to another. It is sad to see a player of Eusebio's stature trying to trade on his name when his days at the top have long since gone.

Stuggart Scandal –action demanded

by Brian Glanville

AFTER UEFA, FIFA; and further proof that the rulers of our game are unworthy of their office. UEFA, as we know, disgracefully skimped their investigation of the Lobo-Solti bribery scandal, repugnantly shirked their duty, inexcusably absolved Juventus of implication in a scandal where they were manifestly guilty. Now it's the turn of FIFA. In what one might properly describe as The Stuttgart Scandal, the attempts of the Italians to bribe the Poles during the World Cup match of June 23, 1974, Dr. Helmut Kaser, Secretary of FIFA, has proved another Pilate. Chapter and verse will follow: meanwhile, let us look at the facts of the case.

Last month, in *World Soccer*, I referred to the disclosure of the Polish captain, Kaziu Deyna, now with Manchester City, that money had indeed been offered to the Polish players during that game, eventually won 2-1 by Poland, and that it had been scornfully rejected by the Poles.

The response of the shameful, and wholly shameless, Italian football Press was what you would expect it to be: the news was either ignored or denied. The *Gazzetta Dello Sport* did not even reproduce it. The *Corriere Dello Sport* bleated about England's misdemeanours in the 1966 World Cup (not a word of chapter and verse) and demanded that Artemio Franchi, President of UEFA and the FIGC, should act to defend the good name (sic) of Italian football. The next step was to talk to Tomaszewski.

Jan Tomaszewski, whose splendid, brave, sometimes erratic goalkeeping against England at Wembley in the World Cup eliminator of 1973 did so much to gain Poland their draw, is now with Beerschot of Antwerp, where I flew to interview him.

Forthright

"Tomek," as he calls himself, has been at Beerschot since last season. He is a vastly endearing character, open, friendly, warm, honest and forthright. First, a colleague of mine on the *Sunday Times* telephoned him and spoke to him in Polish of the Stuttgart affair; then I talked to him in his pleasant flat in Antwerp myself, while his pretty, tiny daughter rambled round the room, delighted when Tomek showed a clip of himself heading a corner to Haiti's Sanon (who scored) on his colour television.

Tomek confirmed that bribery attempts had indeed been made; but they were not in fact made on the field. They were made in the grandstand by the six Italian reserves not actually sitting on the bench to the six Poles in a similar position. No actual sum of money was named, said Tomek, for the simple reason that the Poles wanted nothing to do with the offer. It was, he told us, made in a smattering of different languages; some broken English, French and German, the nature of whose purport was abundantly clear.

In the dressing-room at half-time, when the Poles were leading 2-0, the suggestion that they allow the Italians to draw 2-2, for money, was made to the Poles, and turned down with utter contempt. As Tomek himself said to me, the Poles had surpassed themselves to come as far as they had; he hoped that in years to come people in Stuttgart would remember him, and the game. Football being what it was, there was always the possibility that the Italians might recover and win 3-2; but let them do it, if at all, on their own merits, with no complicity from the Poles.

So Italy lost 2-1, went out of the tournament, and were accused some months later in an interview given to a Warsaw daily paper by Kazimierz Gorski, the Polish manager, of having tried to suborn his players. Artemio Franchi rumbled that the Italians would protest to FIFA, and Gorski made the journalist withdraw all the statements which had been attributed to him.

Disclosures

Thus it was hardly surprising that when the *Sunday Times* published Deyna's disclosures, an Italian daily should send a Greek correspondent hotfoot to Gorski, who has been managing Aris Salonika. Gorski obligingly told him that Deyna must be beside himself, that he could never have made the statements attributed to him — in fact they were written down in Polish and signed by the Polish captain — and that no attempt at bribery had been made by the Italians. Apprised of this, Tomaszewski remarked to me that Gorski was a good diplomat. Indeed.

David Miller, soccer correspondent of the *Daily Express*, then telephoned FIFA's Helmut Kaser in Switzerland and asked him what FIFA were going to do about it. Kaser replied that it was strange that the Poles had waited nearly six years before speaking. Miller pointed out that for most of that time they had still been in Poland, behind the Iron Curtain. Kaser then went on to say that he did not really think it a matter for FIFA, that it was rather one for the Italians: and the Italian players! Once again the buck had been passed, once again an official body was opting unashamedly for the quiet life. It was, said Kaser, after all only a question of one person's word against another; there was no real proof.

This took me back to a remark made in the *Sunday Times* by my colleague and fellow investigator, Keith Botsford, when the Rip Van Winkles of FIFA manifested a similar attitude: what did these people need as proof, the actual sight of large dirty wads of notes being passed across a table? None so blind as those who will not see. None so deaf as those who do not wish to hear anything which will threaten the snug, smug round of congresses, free trips, sojourns in expensive hotels.

In this connection, the behaviour of a magazine such as *France Football* is even worse than that of its Italian equivalents; such as the abject weekly *Guerin Sportivo*. There, reproducing in miniature my *Sunday Times* article on Tomaszewski, the magazine wrote underneath that the offer had allegedly been made by Italian reserves "on the bench" (quite wrong, as we have seen), but no one knew by whom to whom or how much; wanton, contemptible travesty of the facts.

But *France Football* give no facts at all. The leading football weekly in Europe, progenitor of the European Cup and the European Footballer of the Year award, they behave as though none of this had ever happened. Jacques Feran, who fills a complete page every week with verbose ramblings about the state of the game, and travels the world making sure, in an official capacity, that seats in Press boxes are sufficiently large to accommodate the posteriors of the game's journalists, has never said a word about it. So much for the great moralist of European football, though by comparison with the cringing, craven, free loading, corrupt Italian football Press, he is almost a saint.

Calls have been made for a FIFA inquiry. I myself have no vengeful feelings towards the Italians. Enzo Bearzot, the present team manager, is a laudably honest, decent man who wants to put this kind of turpitude behind him; and the national team. Artemio Franchi is a decent man who probably has as little time for the egregious Italo Allodi as Bearzot, who won't speak to the fellow when they meet at Coverciano, where Allodi is still, mysteriously, in charge; on upwards of £50,000 a year. "How can I run the Italian team," he plaintively demands, "with a Brutus at my back?"

But Allodi is The Man Who Knew Too Much; secretary of Inter in the halcyon days of Solti and what Botsford called The Golden Years of the Fix, General Manager of Juventus when they tried to buy Lobo in 1973, and of Italy in 1974's World Cup. Franchi is civilised, decent, cultivated, urbane; but he's a trimmer and he always has been. He doesn't want to open this particular can of worms, though I don't doubt it displeases him as much as it does everybody else who wants football to be decent and honest.

As for FIFA and UEFA, these cases have exposed them pitilessly. I'm glad Sir Harold Thompson, the FA Chairman, has demanded action. I'd have been still more delighted had he supported the *Sunday Times* instead of attacking it in 1974. Still, you cannot have everything, and there is more joy in Heaven, as they say.

HUGHES IS SHEER MAGIC

by Brian Marshall

EMLYN "Crazy Horse" Hughes will lead Wolves into their Football League Cup Final against Nottingham Forest at Wembley despite a troublesome knee injury which has plagued him for most of the season.

It is typical of the player that he will put himself out to be part of another big occasion which less than twelve months ago he must have thought had passed him by as he went into the veteran stage of his illustrious soccer career.

He was cast off by Liverpool in their production line approach to the game as they bring in younger players to maintain the balance of the side at Anfield. Hughes, a great player for both Liverpool and England, obviously knew that his illustrious days at Anfield were numbered last season.

Suddenly he dropped out of the team and was then recalled. He was losing his edge which was marked even more in such a succesful side as Liverpool. Manager Bob Paisley, an old war-horse at Liverpool in the late 40's and early 50's, first noticed this sign of age creeping into Emlyn's play several months ago but it was with great reluctance that he had to release the powerful defender, who had given stalwart service to the Merseyside club over the years.

Paisley was of the opinion that Hughes had two or three good years still left in him and was delighted when Wolves stepped in to offer him a contract at Molineux.

Hughes did not rush in and sign the contract. He took a long time before agreeing to the move and consulted a lot of people like Bill Shankly, who had such a big influence on his career. Shankly fully appreciated the problems confronting Hughes and advised him against becoming involved as a player-manager lower down the scale.

Then Wolves, who badly needed some new blood stepped into the market. Money for new players was in short supply because of their commitment with the impressive new stand at Molineux and the £100,000 requested by Liverpool fell within the limit which had been imposed by the Midland club's board.

It was a gamble that has paid off handsomely for Wolves. Richie Barker, in the absence of John Barnwell who was recovering from the after-effects of a car accident, set up the deal and it has proved to be a master move because Hughes' inspiration has been the key to Wolves success.

Barnwell said: "Emlyn is sheer magic. The fellow never knows when he is beaten and he has made a tremendous impact on the club and the younger players.

"Just how important he is to Wolves was proved in the second leg of our League Cup semi-final against Swindon. Everyone was aware that Emlyn had some knee trouble. He hadn't been able to train and John McAlle was standing by to play.

"But Emlyn said he would be fit enough to play and this was good enough for me because his experience of 28 semi-finals with Liverpool was going to be invaluable and this was highlighted on the night when we had to keep plugging away before we earned the right to play at Wembley.

"Personally, I am over the moon. I played for two excellent clubs, Arsenal and Nottingham Forest, during my 18 years playing career and never got to Wembley. To take the club into the final in only my second season at Molineux is a tremendous thrill and what is more important is that the club's pride has been restored."

For Emlyn Hughes it will be like going home to play at Wembley — a pitch he has graced on many occasions for England. In the process he has built-up an impressive reputation as a hard, battling competitor who never knows when he is beaten.

These qualities have earned him selection for the England squad because manager Ron Greenwood recognises the importance of having such a player in the party.

Hughes, however, has come a long way from the days when his father wanted him to become a Rugby League player. These aspirations were quickly dented when he played for Barrow boys against St. Helens and suffered the disappointment of a 47-0 defeat.

Life in Barrow was not exactly a bed of roses. His soccer ability began to emerge and he joined Barrow. One game he will always remember was playing in an F.A. Youth Cup tie against Manchester United and once again he was to suffer a great humilation as the Old Trafford team won 14-1.

David Sadler and George Best were in the United side at that time but playing in such a game made Hughes all that more determined to suceed. But he is honest enough to admit: "At that time I wondered if I could even make the grade in the Fourth Division."

Then came a move which changed his whole career. He was spotted by Blackpool and taken to Bloomfield Road by Ron Stuart and it was then that he began to bloom into a very promising player. Liverpool, never slow to spot potential talent, quickly moved in and Hughes took his first steps to stardom.

Success in Europe, the Football League and the F.A. Cup all came his way at Anfield. He played his part as an inspiring captain — the asset which promoted Wolves to step in and persuade him to leave Merseyside for the Midlands.

On the first day he reported to Molineux he appeared to be out of place because he had long since become part and parcel of the Liverpool scene. To his credit he has worked feverishly hard and Wolves success in reaching the Football League final is in no small way attributed to his influence on the team.

At Wembley he will again be pumping those long balls out of defence to get his attack in motion. He will be calling upon all his years of experience to contain the Nottingham Forest attack and if Wolves go into the final as under-dogs this will not be put Hughes out of his stride.

Speaking from his vast experience he said: "Favourites are always coming unstuck."

With a toothy grin he added: "Don't underestimate Wolves. It would give me a great deal of personal satisfaction to win another trophy at Wembley."

KEEGAN OR BRADY?

Ken Goldman looks at the debate

KEEGAN or Brady? It was the question on everyone's lips before, during and after the recent England versus Eire clash at Wembley.

Ron Greenwood said at the Press Conference that "football was a game of opinions", so it was a poignant moment when Johnny Giles came to answer the question.

He replied that Keegan had an excellent game, but that he thought Brady "had a better all-round game as a midfield player."

Comparisons, as the platitude says, are odious, so it was strange for the bright Mr Giles to get caught up in this kind of speculation at all.

However, he did not make clear the fact that in any event he was not being asked to compare like with like, even though he had fallen into the trap of starting to answer such a "Have you stopped beating your wife?" question.

The truth is that there are nowadays three and often four players who play in midfield and they are all different types so that the blend is the important thing.

Charles Hughes, the Assistant Director of Coaching, pointed out in his excellent book entitled *Tactics and Teamwork:* "The fact of the matter is that two teams can play with the same system eg. 4-3-3 and yet play in a completely different way. Why? Because the players will be different and will be given different instructions."

Ability

Anyone who has seen Keegan and Brady play will know that they cannot be compared because Keegan will always be a goalscorer and a striker at heart, no matter where he plays in midfield; has an eye for goal, a speed of turn and an exceptional ability in the air for a player of his height.

Brady is a provider, a man who relies on his left foot. Officially Brady is also the master of the long crossfield pass and raking through-ball who has been known to score goals, but mainly from long range with a swerving or dipping effort and seldom netted with his head. Likewise the question was a non-starter, since if Brady had played for England and Keegan for Eire, the result would probably have been the same and the question would then have become academic.

A combined Irish team might have pushed England much closer at the top of the group table. If Pat Jennings, Sammy Nelson, Sammy McIlroy, Martin O'Neill and Jimmy Nichol were added the additional pieces might have produced a more consolidated jigsaw than just the players from the Republic of Ireland.

Arsenal manager, Terry Neil, a former international player and manager of Northern Ireland, felt it would be a good idea to see a combined Irish side but added that there would probably be too many administrative difficulties involved.

Policy

He also pointed out that it would have to be decided whether it was an overall policy or just for the full international side, otherwise a decision would have to made about Under-21, Youth and schoolboy football.

What about the number of Irish players who are or were centred in London. Arsenal have three from the North and four from the South, including John Devine, their latest cap, while Jerry Paton plays for Fulham, Chris Hughton for Spurs, Jerry Murphy for Crystal Palace and Paddy Mulligan (Chelsea) Tony Grealish (Orient) and Don Givens (Q.P.R.) all have played for those London clubs before moving to their present ones. In the Northern Irish contingent, there are David McCreery (Q.P.R.) Gerry Armstrong (Spurs) and Chris McGrath formerly of Spurs (and out of the squad at the moment, Mick Walsh of Q.P.R.).

There is a list of many distinguished players from both the North and South of Ireland who have represented London clubs since the war which includes: Danny Blanchflower; Dr. O'Flanagan; Joe Haverty; Norman Uprichard; Jimmy Magill; Bill Dixon; Joe Elwood; Jack McClelland; Bill McCullough; Noel Cantwell; Jimmy Conway; Eamonn Dunphy; Noel Dwyer; Theo Foley; Jimmy Holmes; Joe Kinnear; Frank O'Farrell and Pat Saward.

Retired

There are many more whom I have not mentioned and all of these players have now retired from the game. It would, therefore, seem possible to try out that all-Irish idea by bringing together a London-Irish team to match say a London-Scottish or other side to test out the theory.

The cosmopolitan atmosphere does only good and the question as to who is better than whom should be confined to reminiscences by the fireside, rather than fired like bullets at managers who are forced to defend their players, as well as themselves, in such a situation.

PLAYERS WANTED

Interested League or Non-League players (single only) to play for Tasmanian State League Club — Launceston Juventus, 1980 season.

Return air-fare, accommodation and job guarantee. State requirements and qualifications in writing to:—

Launceston Juventus Soccer Club,
P.O. Box 260,
Launceston,
Tasmania 7250,
Australia.

WAITING FOR THE

Club Focus on Dynamo Berlin

WHEN Nottingham Forest face Dynamo Berlin in the Champions' Cup quarter finals, they'd better take notice of Bob Paisley's words, rather than popular opinion.

Paisley has already warned that the East Germans could be the most awkward customers out of all seven remaining challengers to the title-holders.

And if Forest find out about Dynamo's impressive performances in the league last year — when they won the East German title for the first time — they'll understand.

For Dynamo went off like a rocket. Wolf-Rüdiger Netz hit seven goals in the first four games, including four in a 5-0 derby win over Union Berlin, and it wasn't until after they'd established a record of nine straight victories that Dynamo dropped their first point — in a 1-1 draw at Dresden, their closest pursuers.

By the halfway stage they had moved six points clear, with 12 wins out of 13 games and Netz was the league's top joint scorer on nine goals along with Magdeburg's Joachim Streich and Lippmann of Stahl Riesa.

After the winter break they broke Dresden's 16-game unbeaten record and lost only one game — by 1-0 to Magdeburg. That was a precursor for another defeat, by the same margin and by the same opponents in the Cup Final, decided only in the dying minutes of extra time.

But there were no further hiccups in the league. Hans Jürgen Riediger had now established himself as the leading marksman and a hat-trick in a 5-3 defeat of Erfurt brought him level with Streich on 16 goals.

Even the defection of midfielder Lutz Eigendorf after a 4-1 defeat in a prestige friendly over The Wall against Kaiserslautern in West Germany made no difference as Dynamo drove relentlessly onwards.

Their style of play, busy, forceful with a vital touch of extra pace in attack, meant they finished with this remarkable record:

Played 26 Won 21 Drawn 4
Lost 1 Goals for 75 Agst 18

The record goals tally was boosted along the way by a league best 10-0 thrashing of Sachsenring Zwickau — without international goalkeeper Jürgen Croy.

Yet for all their outstanding form at home, the inexperience of a team whose average age was only 23 was shown up in the UEFA Cup by Red Star Belgrade, who were allowed to come back from 6-2 down on aggregate to win in the last half-hour of the second leg in Yugoslavia.

The only other blow to pride came at the end of the year when, despite the claimants in the Dynamo ranks, it was Magdeburg's Streich who was proclaimed Footballer of the Year.

But while, to the West, Dynamo had apparently emerged from nowhere, East German fans weren't so surprised. Since 1975 they'd promised plenty, having finished fourth, second, fourth and third in the preceding years.

For all that, Dynamo have a tarnished image, since behind the Iron Curtain the Dynamo clubs are generally the police sports section and East Germany is no exception.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Berliner Football Club Dynamo

President: Manfred Kirste.
League: 1979. Runners-up: 1960, 1972, 1976.
Cup: 1959. Runners-up: 1962, 1971, 1979.
General Manager: Dieter Fuchs.
Coach: Jürgen Bogs.
Asst. Coach: Martin Skaba.
Colours: Red shirts, white shorts.

Ground: Sportforum (capacity 25,000). Big matches in the Ernst-Jann-Sportpark (capacity 35,000). Own stadium under construction (int. cap. 50,000).

Other activities: Run under auspices of the Ministry for the Interior, Dynamo are the biggest sports club of their kind in E. Germany, with provision for more than a dozen sports and recreations.

'Maybe we can

JÜRGEN BOGS, at 32 the youngest coach in the *Oberliga*, didn't mince words when he learned Dynamo Berlin had been drawn against Nottingham Forest in Europe.

"We were outsiders in the quarter-finals anyway and now we are even more so. I'm never very happy about facing an English side because their players are always very strong and very fit. They can keep up the same pace for a full 90 minutes.

"We haven't reached those standards yet and I don't think we compare in heading or tackling. But we've got to make the best of what we do have — our commitment and determination. If we can do that and put aside our respect for Forest — after all, they are the holders of the Cup — then maybe we could spring a surprise."

But Bogs was only too ready to admit that those chances are limited by the likely absence of Hans-Jürgen Riediger in attack. He's been out most of the season because of a broken bone in his leg.

Bogs says: "A forward and goal-scorer of his quality just can't be replaced overnight. Helm, his deputy, has done very well all things considered and is a very good prospect. But obviously, the team just isn't the same.

"All I hope is that Jürgen will be fit in time for the . . . semi-finals!"

Bogs was no star player himself. Most of his playing career was spent in the second division with Aufbau Schwedt, where he also pursued a career in physical training instruction. His intelligent planning and tactical awareness brought him to Dynamo's attention, and in 1975 he was placed in charge of their senior youth team.

His success was striking. So striking that in 1976-77 he was appointed first-team coach and, with the assistance of Martin Skaba, a long-serving player with the club, he quickly began to promote the youngsters he had coached — with results which are now obvious.

No wonder Dresden boss Gerd Prautzsch says: "Dynamo Berlin are the Team of Tomorrow. With their facilities, their schooling, they are way out in front of anyone else in the *Oberliga*. Including us."

The value of Dynamo's potential is clear. Not just for the club, but for the national team, who have been in the doldrums ever since the 1974 World Cup Finals.

"It's our responsibility to provide some leadership," says Bogs. "But there are no short cuts. We have to take everything step by step. Last season I thought we were too naive to be taken seriously in Europe. But the boys have learned a lot very quickly.

"They've had to, I suppose. Now we carry a major responsibility both in Europe, on behalf of our football, and in the league because we are champions.

"We've achieved quite a lot already. We have a good team, the fans respond well — for a change! — and we are developing the sort of facilities to help maintain our standing. Now we've come this far it would be criminal to sit back.

"Whatever happens against Forest I want to be able to see that my team have developed still further by the end of the season. This is just a beginning. It wouldn't be the end if we

FOREST CLASH

by Keir Radnedge

And the East German police means the dreaded Vopos to any Westerners who have been unlucky enough to be stopped for some minor traffic offence on the transit autobahn between the Marienborn checkpoint and the island of West Berlin.

Dynamo Berlin were an official creation, put together not by a band of football enthusiasts, and not claiming any throwback to any great club of the 1920s or 1930s. Instead the club were created in 1953 with the delegation of a sports unit from Dynamo Dresden to East Berlin.

They were labelled the Sport-Club Dynamo Berlin, though later, as the state-amateur football federation earned a little self-respect and autonomy, they were allowed to alter the title to the present one of Berliner Football Club Dynamo.

Under whichever name, they've maintained a presence in the first division, the *Oberliga*, since 1954 with a one-season absence only, following relegation in 1967.

Cup-winners in 1959, beating Wismut Chemnitz 3-2 after extra time in a replayed final, they were league runners-up the following year and back in the Cup Final in 1962, only to be beaten 3-1 by Chemie Halle.

That defeat was the first stage of the long slide to the second division — the pace of the decline accelerated by the retirement of long-serving inside-right and national team captain, Günter Schröter.

Schröter had created league records — since overtaken — with his 142 goals in 321 games since switching to Dynamo and without him the attack fell apart. Coach Karl Schäffner obtained no help from the authorities in the sinister matter of acquiring new players, and so had to recourse but to turn to the 14-team youth section and hope against hope that the boys would see them round the corner.

They did, eventually, but not until after the club's small core fans had been whittled right down after some poor years. Even now Dynamo have to struggle to pull the crowds. Their average last season of 18,000 for home games was a clear 10,000 behind the figure for Dresden.

Yet, just as Dynamo owed their original existence to Dresden, so it was a clash with their creators which signalled the signs of a major recovery. It was the 1971 Cup Final. Dresden won it, 2-1 in extra time, but since they had already won the league Dynamo went into the Cup-winners' Cup.

The cheerful guidance of Hans Geitel led them to the semi-finals, where they lost by the narrowest of means — on penalties after two 1-1 draws with Dynamo Moscow.

Clearly the foundations had then been laid for last season's triumphs. More key builders were appropriated. Harry Nippert, a former Vorwärts and Dynamo player, was prised away from a coaching aide role at Dresden to take charge of the first team; Reinhard Lauck, a perceptive organiser, was signed from Union Berlin.

Prophetically, the sports magazine *Neue FussballWoche* headlined their preview of Dynamo's season: "Searching for a new image . . ."

They were well on the way towards finding it, as they finally proved nearly a year ago in bringing the League title back to Berlin, a full 11 years since Vorwärts (now based at Frankfurt an der Oder) had last been acclaimed.

spring surprise'

didn't beat Forest or if we didn't retain the League title. After all, Dresden have been going well and don't have to fight on so many fronts. Also, we do miss Riediger.

"But this club has a lot to offer football in the GDR and I think there is a lot more yet for us to achieve."

THE PLAYERS

BODO RUDWALEIT. Goalkeeper. Aged 22. At 6ft 7in probably Europe's tallest top-class goalkeeper. Already seen by national boss Georg Buschner as the prospective long-term successor to Jürgen Croy, and a key man in the title-defending Olympic squad.

REINHARD SCHWERDTNER. Goalkeeper. 23. Another tall man at 6ft 4in.

MICHAEL NOACK. Right-back, 24. Occasional goal-scorer. A man who likes to move forward. Quick and sturdy in the tackle. One senior cap.

NORBERT TRIELOFF. Sweeper. 22. A star in the junior team and very likely for a place in the squad to defend the Olympic title in Moscow.

RAINER TROPPA. Stopper. 21. Youngster with a remarkable amount of authority considering his lack of experience. Another of East Germany's 'new wave'.

ARTHUR ULLRICH. Left-back. 22. Physical education instructor who established himself in the team after the reshuffle which followed Eigendorf's flight to the West. Youth team product.

BERND BRILLAT. Defender. Will be 29 in between the quarter-final ties. A quality control officer in civil life who joined the Dynamo set-up in 1967. Youth international, he can play as well at centre-forward as at centre-back.

BERNHARD JONELAT. Defender, 27. Joined in 1969.

ALBERT ULLRICH. Defender. 27. Elder brother of Arthur Ullrich and another youth product, having joined at 14. Can also play in midfield.

FRANK TERLETZKI. Midfield. Born August 5, 1950. A machine-tool engineer by trade, who 10 youth caps. Joined in 1967 and has played only four times for East Germany's senior team despite a consistency which made him the obvious successor to another ex-youth international, Peter Rohde, as club captain.

REINHARD LAUCK. Midfield. 33 — with 33 caps, including one in the historic 1-0 win over West Germany during the 1974 World Cup Finals. The veteran of the club he joined from neighbours Union Berlin in 1973. Strategist and useful goalscorer.

ROLAND JUNGLING. Midfield. 23. Former junior international. Hard worker with plenty of pace. Another youth product.

DIETMAR LABBES. Midfield. Born May 30, 1952. Joined in 1968 as a striker but since moved back as creator. Three youth caps, 19 as a junior.

RAINER ERNST. Midfield. 18. Fine prospect.

HANS-JÜRGEN RIEDIGER. Attack. 24. Had won 22 youth caps and 31 at senior level until a serious leg injury last autumn. Known as the Blond Arrow for his speed, skill and incision. The most exciting player in the team and bound to be missed against Forest.

HARTMUT PELKA. Attack. 23. Dynamo's most dangerous forward in the air.

WOLF-RÜDIGER NETZ. Attack. Born December 15, 1950. Formed a dangerous double spearhead with Riediger last season. Has won a dozen senior caps since returning to Dynamo from a spell on loan to second division side Dynamo Schwerin in 1973-74.

RALF STRASSER. Attack or midfield. 21. Rapidly improving youth international.

DETLEF HELMS. Attack. 19. Perhaps East Germany's most talented newcomer. Stepped in adroitly after Riediger's injury. But remains a little lightweight, handicapped by inexperience and a lack of confidence.

DYNAMO IN EUROPE

1971-72: Cup-winners' Cup.
1-1 1-1 v Cardiff (won on pens)
3-1 3-1 v Beerschot
2-0 2-2 v Atvidaberg (qtr-fnl)
1-1 1-1 v Dynamo Moscow (semi-fnl — lost on pens).

1972-73: UEFA Cup.
1-1 2-1 v Angers
3-0 0-2 v Levsky-Spartak
0-0 1-3 v Liverpool

1976-77: UEFA Cup
0-3 1-1 v Schakhtor Donetsk

1978-79: 5-2 1-4 v Red Star Belgrade

1979-80: Champions' Cup
4-1 0-0 Ruch Chorzow
2-1 2-2 v Servette
?-? ?-? v Nottingham Forest (qtr-fnl).

Played 22 Won 8 Drawn 10 Lost 4
For 36 Against 29

GREEKS ARE PROUD

by Arthur Rotmil

GREECE is proud of its national team who reached the finals of the European Championship for the first time. But this marvellous achievement cannot expunge the fact that domestic football has been plunged into a truly awful situation.

On December 9, the complete championship programme in the First and Second Division was cancelled because the players went on strike. They are demanding better social security, now that the clubs operate as Limited Companies and they expect them to provide sickness benefits and pensions just like in any other industry.

This action was initiated by players from the Second Division who are asking the government for a special bonus of £40,000 per club to be paid out of football pools takings. Furthermore, they want a type of freedom of contract, whereby a player who has been with a club for five years is entitled to an automatic release. The demand for a subsidy was rejected, the other problems will be dealt with by a special commission. The players from the First Division resumed activity, but in the Second Division there was more trouble.

Thirty out of 40 semi-professional clubs remained idle and only three games were then played. These men and their clubs insisted on government aid three times higher than that allowed at present. These part-timers claim they receive just £100 a month and only small bonuses for away wins.

Chaos

The players' action caused a fixture chaos for some clubs were awarded points because their opponents failed to turn up. But the demand that full championship rounds should be played at a later date was dismissed by the Football Federation. The government was still undecided on how to intervene in this dispute and it was expected that the Prime Minister Konstantinos Karamanlis will personally take charge to end the deadlock.

The State Secretary for Sport, however, rejects the idea of social security and pensions for footballers; he claims that such a scheme is unknown in world professional football. "The players belong already to the privileged class and earn too much money. The strike concerns only the professional clubs and their players. It should not therefore be handled by the government. In order to ensure the continuation of the football pools business, we have printed coupons with English and Italian fixtures," he added.

Further criticism was directed at the big clubs who appear to have the money to buy new players. Olympiakos paid a total of £220,000 for just two players — Nikoloudis (ex-AEK Athens) and the Swede Ahlstroem (ex-Elfsborg Boras).

The change over to full-time professionalism has at least brought higher wages for team managers, but their position is now even more precarious. They earn between £1,000 and £2,800 a month, but if they fail to provide success then they are fired quicker than in any other European country. After 15 matches already seven clubs had changed their team manager!

Panathinaikos sacked Lakis Petropulos (a former national team chief) last November for lack of success. His place was temporarily filled by the Englishman Les Shannon. Then the club wanted Harry Gregg, the former Manchester United goalkeeper and current coach. Panathinaikos were believed to be ready to offer Gregg a long-term contract worth £40,000 a year, a salary well above those paid to English managers in the First Division, but Gregg mindful of the problems encountered by other foreign coaches in Greece probably had second thoughts.

The Athenians eventually engaged the vastly experienced Italian Bruno Pesaola and are hoping for better things in the near future. The return of the famous Mimis Domazos has also made headlines.

Domazos came back from AEK to Panathinaikos because he didn't fancy reserve football any more, having fallen out with AEK's Austrian team boss Hermann Stessl. It will be interesting to see whether Pesaola can find a place for this still idolised player in his first eleven. The 38-year-old midfielder, who played in 49 internationals and spent 19 years at Panathinaikos, will now end his career with his first club. He ranks as one of the greatest and certainly most popular footballers this country has ever produced.

Earlier in the season Panathinaikos invited Sir Alf Ramsey, the former England team manager, to discuss the offer of a post as a consultant. It would have been ironic if Sir Alf had accepted the role of a manager, for his predecessor at Panathinaikos was the Pole Kazimierz Gorski. And as Poland's national team chief he was indirectly responsible for Sir Alf's demise, after Poland eliminated England from the 1974 World Cup.

Other managerial changes in the First Division: Iraklis Salonika who invested nearly £500,000 in new players fired the Pole Antoni Brzerzanczyk and engaged temporarily the Greek Michail Belis, while waiting for the arrival of the Bulgarian Apostol Zazevicki. Apollon Athens, who slumped to bottom place, accepted the resignation of the Bulgarian Manol Manolov, who explained that the players "no longer listened to his advice"!

Panionios, last year's cup winners, replaced their German team coach Siegfried Metzing with Petropoulos (sacked by Panathinaikos). Yannina hired the Pole Jacek Gmoch in place of the Greek Alefantos; Rhodos signed the well known Englishman Vic Buckingham in succession to Belis. And finally Korinthos picked up Belis after Grigoriadis was given the push.

Next to go could be Stessl at AEK, unless the champions for the past two years can retain their title. And so the "musical chairs" continue in this land where passions are aroused so easily, that not even the biggest name among managers is certain of its immediate future. There is simply no room for failures.

New name on Champions Trophy

A NEW name went on the champion clubs trophy of the Central and North American and Caribbean Football Federation when El Salvador champions Deportivo FAS beat Young Colombia, champions of Curacao, 7-1 in the home leg of the final in front of 50,000 spectators. The first-leg in Curacao had ended in a 1-1 draw.

Deportivo FAS, champions of El Salvador for the last two seasons and currently again in the fight for the title, had earlier eliminated strong favourites Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.

● Meanwhile, with regular season play almost at the halfway stage in the Mexican first division, the top two teams of each section (who will qualify for the final round) continue to hold their places as they have been doing for most of the season. In group one it is Atlante first and defending champions Cruz Azul second.

Group two leaders are still Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico and Tampico second on goals. Group three continues to be topped by America, who are called "Millionarios" (millionaires) because they have all the stars (as well as the best record of 11-3-3), followed by Toluca. Group four is topped by Universidad de Nuevo Leon with the widest margin of six points and Zacatapec are second. (See league table at back of magazine).

BOOK REVIEW

THE problems of writing a history of football are obvious. What do you leave out?

And the difficulties increase when the history is directed at a largely unconverted audience.

Brian Glanville, however, has managed to overcome these obstacles with *A Book Of Soccer (Oxford).*

In 300 pages he paints a verbal picture of football from its infancy in England to the world wide game of the eighties.

Because of the comparatively limited space the information is sometimes, of necessity, only brief, but it is remarkable that so much background information has been included.

From beginnings in England, Glanville discusses the development of the game in Europe, South America and finally the United States, introducing tactis and personalities along the way.

For the American, who is now discovering what soccer is all about, the book will be invaluable. For the football follower of longer standing *A Book of Soccer* will still earn a place of importance in the reference library.

Programmes — gems for the collectors!

by David Millward

MOST football mad schoolboys will at some time have been avid football programme collectors. But as they grow older and lose the jackdaw instinct to hoard anything and everything connected with the game, the programmes get either thrown away, swapped or sold for other more "adult" form of entertainment.

Of course the serious collectors do remain and for them programmes become an obsession and also potentially big business. There is one collector reputed to be willing to pay £100 for the 1924 England—Scotland programme which would complete his set of internationals played at Wembley.

The older the programme the greater the value. There are some gems since the war, such as the Manchester United programme for the game directly after the Munich Air Crash. The opponents were Sheffield Wednesday. Wednesday's team is named in full, but for United there are eleven blanks. A virgin copy of this programme would fetch about £40 on the open market, one with the United team filled in considerably less.

But beyond their commercial value old programmes have a tale of their own to tell. For the younger football follower, they relate the story of a bygone age. Footballers did not wear shorts they wore "knickers". In the 1930s "Admiral" was a rank in the navy. Players were tradesmen, plying their craft for a decent, if not astronomical wage.

A glance through some old Chelsea programmes show the game was not quite the solemn affair it is now. If they are anything to go by, fun was a strong element in the football played at Stamford Bridge in the 1930s. Chelsea of course were a music hall joke at the time, and clearly the editor of the programme decided if you can't beat them, join them.

Chelsea rejoiced in the nickname of "The Pensioners". On the cover of every programme was a cartoon of a beaming pensioner. For one game against Wolves, the pensioner is shown fending off an attack from a very ferocious looking creature, which is also juggling a football.

The Wolves manager Major Frank Buckley is assuring the rather worried looking pensioner that the creature is "just young and playful". The pensioner in turn is not exactly relaxed at the prospect of being attacked by the wolf, "Well I dunno where he's heading for but I would like him better if he'd leave some of those points behind."

For a game against Everton in 1939, Chelsea are personified by a bird called "Perky Percy", who is still wearing the distinctive Chelsea pensioner's cap. The game played in April, is the classic Chelsea situation, dodging relegation. Everton were league leaders at the time and boasted players like Joe Mercer, Ted Sagar and Tommy Lawton in their line up.

Perky Percy is not intimidated by these odds. "Perky Percy, in spite of his lowly position is quite capable of rising to the occasion. He hopes to feather his nest from the head of the league today." Chelsea lost 2-0, but still managed to avoid relegation by one point.

The programme had a column called "Daisy Cutters". This was a fairly light hearted look at the contemporary soccer scene. The author did not shrink from using the most appalling puns. "Portsmouth have let their Mackrell swim away to Norwich, but they still have a fine Salmond, to say nothing of a big Rowe."

In March 1937, heavy mud was making the ritual of the pre-match toss-up something of a nightmare. "Coins persist in sticking edge up again and again. Happened four times in succession at Villa on Saturday. Who will be the first ref to do the Sir Walter Raleigh act and spread his jacket on the slime for the coin to fall on?"

Old programmes are fulll of gems like these from the bygone age of slicked down hair, flat caps and Woodbines. So have a good look in your loft, you never know what you might find.

RADICE DISMISSED

GIGI RADICE, the man who took Torino to their first league title in nearly 30 years, has been dismissed. Radice, ex-Milan wing half who played for the losing team in the 1958 Champions' Cup Final, had been in charge four years. Previously he coached Cagliari and Fiorentina. Last April Radice was badly hurt in the car crash in which old friend Paolo Barison was killed.

European Championship goes to Rome
But World Soccer goes everywhere!

AFRICAN NEWS

KENYANS DOMINATE EIGHT NATION TOURNEY

THE East and Central Africa clubs championship staged in Malawi turned into a Kenyan affair when two of its top teams, league champions Gor Mahia, and defending champions Abaluhya stormed into the finals of the eight-nation tournament.

Gor Mahia sprant a major surprise in the semi-finals when they knocked out home favourites, Limbe Leaf Wanderers, 3-1 on penalties after the teams were tied 1-1 after extra time.

Abaluhya, who won the trophy in Mogadishu last year, were also stretched to extra time by Zambia's Green Buffaloes before winning 1-0 in Lilongwe, thus leaving the two Kenyan clubs to face each other in the finals at Kamuzu Stadium in Blantyre.

Gor Mahia, who depended so much on a packed defence and a good slice of luck, squeezed a narrow 3-2 victory over Abaluhya to lift the cup for the first time. But it was a tussle fought to the last seconds. Until the 80th minute the teams were still deadlocked 2-2 and it looked as if the game would go into extra time.

But this was not to be: Precisely in the 85th minute Nahashon Oluoch who was most of the time marauding deep into Abaluhya's D-zone like a hungry lion, pounced on a pass from substitute Gideon Hamisi, and rammed the ball home, and it was Gor Mahia's victory.

Of course, Abaluhya had nothing to regret as the championship was going back to Kenya, after all. And in an act of true sportsmanship, the two sides' players shook hands and hugged each other as the referee blew the last whistle.

Green Buffaloes, who played clean and methodical football throughout the tournament, secured third place in the tournament after beating Limbe Leaf Wanderers 3-1 in a thrilling play-off.

GHANA

Ghana's "golden boy" and star of Asante Kotoko of Kumasi, RAZAK, returned home after his abortive two-year contract with Cosmos of the United States.

Razak had been sick most of the six months he was with Cosmos and was featured in only three regular games. During the 1978 finals of the African Cup of Nations staged in Ghana, Razak was voted the best player of the tournament.

Meanwhile, champion club Accra Hearts of Oak have retained the "Sports Writers' Cup" after beating Dumas Boys of GTP by a 62nd minute lone goal at Accra Stadium. The goal was scored by Nketsia Yawson, the footballer of the year.

ZAMBIA

Four-time league champions, Green Buffaloes lifted the Charity Shield after beating underdogs, Power Dynamos of Kitwe, 4-2 on post match penalties in a tough match at the Independence Stadium in Lusaka. The teams were deadlocked 0-0 after 120 minutes of play.

But praise be to Power Dynamos who played scintillating football and managed to hold the all-powerful Buffaloes up to the full-time of extra play without a single goal.

Meanwhile, the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) have increased the number of teams to 18 in all the three divisions of the premier league. The decision of FAZ is to allow wider participation.

The increase in the number of teams from the previous 16 in Division One saves Mufulira Blackpool and neighbours Butondo Western Tigers from relegation to Division Two ranks. These were the last two teams at the bottom of the premier league table.

TANZANIA

Taifa Stars, Tanzania's national team went into an secluded residential camp to prepare for the Africa Cup of Nations finals which will be held in Nigeria.

There are 27 players in the camp which includes the country's "dribbling wizard" Sandy Manara who returned from Holland and United States where he was contracted into professional football.

Mwanza Toto Afrika were dismissed from Chama Cha Mapinduzi Cup when they crashed 1-2 to Chuo Cha Polisi (CCP) of Moshi at the Ukumbozi stadium. CCP were leading 1-0 at the interval via an 11th minute goal scored by Mohamed Nduti.

NIGERIA

Draws for the 12th Africa Cup of Nations for the new Cup of African Unity were released in Nigeria where the tournament will be staged.

Group A consists of host country Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Egypt and Tanzania. In group B will be defending champions, Ghana, Guinea, Algeria and Morocco.

Enthiusiasm has already started mounting in Nigeria as the time draws near for the opening game of the tournament on March 8, and to hot up the tempo, Nigeria's Head of State, Shahu Shagari, has called on every Nigerian to rally behind the nation's team, the Green Eagles to win the Cup.

Mettle

Several games against neighbouring countries were lined up for the Eagles to test their mettle before the tournament. They were held to a 2-2 draw in Monrovia and 1-1 by a revamped Leon Stars of Freetown. Eagles also went down 1-0 to Brazilian first division club FC Cruzeiro in a friendly game in Lagos. The only goal of a hard-fought game came in the 39th minute from right-winger Eduardo, who finished off a move by Mauro and De Joazinho.

Eagles have also been made to play on successive Wednesday nights and Saturdays in between to fuel up for the Africa Cup of the Nations finals.

PROGRAMMES. All League Teams, Cups, European, Internationals etc. Please send S.A.E. for lists stating teams required. Programmes, Blenheim Cottage, Seamere Road, Hingham, Norwich.

JAMES MWAMBARI

Language barrier

THE East and Central African Football Confederation (CECAFA) meeting in Malawi during the eight-nation clubs championship expressed profound displeasure and disappointment at the way its mother body, the African Football Confederation (AFC) was administering football on the continent.

They noted that the AFC were more tilted towards the Francophone countries than the English-speaking countries. Their contention was that disciplinary cases involving Francophone countries were given immediate attention while those from English-speaking nations were left to wait several months and were sometimes ignored altogether.

Delegates also raised a motion on why the appointment of referees and match officials were made without any regard to geographical and communication barriers. It was unfair, the delegates noted, for the AFC to appoint match officials from North Africa to handle games in East and Central Africa. They were of the opinion that this was becoming expensive for hosting nations who were required by AFC regulations to provide first class air fares and accommodation for visiting match officials.

Zambia, in particular, complained to the AFC president, Yiduekatchew Tessema, an Ethiopian, who had been invited to the congress, why the region was not being assisted in its coaching programmes.

In the AFC budget there is a large amount of funds set aside for training referees and coaches, but it was noted that every request made either by an individual country of CECAFA as a region received no response from the AFC.

Tessema extricated himself from the confrontation by promising the delegates that he would table thier complaints at the AFC congress which will be held in Nigeria during the finals of the African Cup of nations.

Tessema said that it was, however, difficult for his organisation to map out training programmes for CECAFA because the regional body did not have permanent headquarters. Its headquarters rotate every two years among member countries.

As a result of this rotation, CECAFA did not have proper procedure of handing over power. Records and correspondence were in disarray.

It was resolved that the organisation establish a permanent headquarters. Malawi, Uganda and Somali offered to accommodate the headquarters, currently based in Kenya. No decision was taken as to which country should have the headquarters.

But a four-man committee was appointed to look into the organisation of future tournaments organised by the CECAFA. This was because membership of the organisation was growing in scope and stature, and staging of the tournaments was becoming expensive.

Aleke Banda of Malawi will head the committee whose other members are Dan Owino of the Kenyan Football Confederation, Fred Iga of Uganda and Tony Phiri of Zambia.

The committee was also given the task to look into the suggestion that CECAFA's tournaments should be held on the same lines as those of the AFC's Africa Cup of nations which is played on eliminatory basis with the last eight teams going to the finals.

Originally the Confederation consisted of three East African countries, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Now it includes Zambia, Malawi, Zanzibar, Ethiopia, Somali and Sudan. Arrangements are also being made to bring in Mozambique, Botswana, Lesotho and Rhodesia, Zimbabwe-to-be.

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GILES INSPIRES HOPES FOR 1986

ANY serious analysis of the present standing of the Republic's soccer team must be prefaced with an acknowledgement of the achievement of team manager, John Giles. Largely thanks to six years of astute management from Giles, the team has made dramatic improvement and evolved from a joke team into a highly professional squad which feels it could "get a result" against any opposition.

The improvement has not gone unnoticed by the media and the public alike (even if on recent occasion the public have shown remarkable lack of respect for the man responsible for that improvement!). Irish fans now expect nothing less than a home win and are looking to the forthcoming World Cup qualifying games (first match, away to Cyprus, March 26 1980) with high expectations.

But while the fact that the Republic has improved dramatically in recent years is beyond contestation, are there any grounds for believing that the improvement rate is steep enough for us to qualify from a group that contains Holland, Belgium and France? If we do qualify from this group (by finishing first or second in the table), then the Republic will have evolved from an improving minnow in the international ratings into a force at the highest level.

The records bear out the theory of improvement. In the two years, 1969 and 1970, Ireland played thirteen matches, lost ten and drew three. In 1978 and 1979, Ireland played fifteen matches, won four, drew five and lost six. The number of losses has been reduced and points have been taken from the majority of matches. But the significance of these figures emerges in a different light when compared with the records of Holland, Belgium and France over the same period. Holland played nineteen, won twelve, drew three and lost four. France played sixteen, won eleven, drew two and lost three. Belgium played eleven, won five, drew five and lost one. No doubts as to whose record looks worst.

If it is argued that the above statistics are unreliable as a guideline to relative merits, then look at the most recent European Championship for further comparison. Both Holland and Belgium have qualified for this summer's finals in Italy by winning their groups, whilst France finished a close second to Czechoslovakia in Group 5.

The task confronting Giles and the Republic is immense. Yet the Giles policy of introducing younger players at the first reasonable opportunity has meant that a formidable but still very young panel has been assembled. The average age of the team which played in Belfast was twenty three years old. Obviously there must be hope that such a young team can improve further.

Speaking recently in the Dutch press, Franz Thiessen (Dutch international now with Ipswich Town) stated that English League soccer remains a game of "individualistic actions" ill related to the overall strategy of teams whose "tactical concepts are naive". Last winter the Polish international, Denya, (now with Manchester City) caused a furore with the powers at Maine Road by stating in the Polish press that, with regard to tactics, English League soccer is out of date.

These remarks by two distinguished foreign players, both of whom have had experience of English soccer, highlights a problem facing Giles. Namely the vast difference between the weekly experience of his squad (nearly all of whom earn their living in the English League) and the situation which confronts them at international level. The sturm und drang, kick and rush methods of the intense league atmsophere are far removed from the slower, more calculating atmosphere of an international, where in the cat and mouse probing of two teams who (in contrast to League teams) do not know each other, the emphasis is on skill, intelligence and tactical sophistication.

To give an example: many English League teams prefer to bring the ball out of defence by the direct method of a goalkeeper's high kick up the field. Whilst at league level this tactic may serve to keep the opposition under pressure, at international level it is more likely to lose you your own possession. Giles certainly prefers, often to the annoyance of an impatient Irish crowd, to work his ball constructively out of defence.

With four back men opposed usually by three front men, there is one defender spare on whom the responsibility falls to set the attack in motion. In mainland Europe, there is a established tradition of the skilled defender who can do this — the Libero, as exemplified by players like Beckenbauer, and more recently Tresor (Marseilles and France) and Krol (Ajax and Holland).

This type of player and indeed this type of play simply are not part of the English League scene. Thus at international level, when faced with non-British opposition, the British defender has to attempt the unfamiliar, often with drastic results. Against Belgium (December 1979) these very limitations were painfully obvious in the inadequate performance of such an experienced defender as Burns (Nottm. Forest and Scotland). Equally Devine was not capable of assuming the creative role asked of him in the first half of the Northern Ireland v Republic game (November 21, 1979). Time and again Devine failed to link with his midfield men and more often than not he simply gave away possession. When asked to "think" his way out of defence and not just deliver the obvious boot up the wing, Devine was found very wanting.

Yet Giles asks for and often gets from his squad a type of play that has little to do with the jobs they perform for their league managers. The highly rationalised, constructive not slow, probing approach encouraged by Giles relies on a type of accuracy which is not developed in the pace of the English league. The contrasting demands can sometimes cause even experienced players problems.

Playing as a central defender for the Republic against West Germany, (May 1979), Mick Martin at one point in the second half brought the ball slowly from defence. With textbook correctness he attempted to draw the Germans towards himself in order to make room in the midfield. This can mean using a square pass across the back four, which of course must be absolutely precise, for if intercepted the opposing player will be left with a clear run at goal.

In this case Kelsch read Martin's rather obvious pass and took his chance most capably for the second German goal. Playing for Newcastle, Martin would never even have attempted the move — he would simply have turned round and sent the ball back to his keeper for the big kick-out. This is the sense in which there is great moral courage in the style that the Republic consistently attempts (even in the last quarter of the Belfast game), as opposed to the cowardice or simple unoriginality of the English League game. It is a courage which unfortunately is not always appreciated by an Irish crowd nurtured on "Match Of The Day".

Accuracy remains a keyword in assessing the Republic's games against Holland, Belgium and France. It is a mistake to imagine that any of the above will play a containing ultra-defensive game at Landsdowne Road, shutting off all access to goal from about thirty metres out. The Dutch, the Belgians and even the French (although to much less a degree) contest the midfield vehemently.

Against Scotland at Hampden, it was astonishing to see how often Van Moer, Van Der Eycken or Cools took the Scottish possession from the Scots, particularly when the Scottish passing was not precise.

The natural Dutch game is one of attack — they are at their least impressive when they are defending a lead (1974 World Cup Final) or playing for a draw (for long periods against West Germany and Italy in the last World Cup).

The Dutch national coach, Zwartkruis, after experimenting with more negative styles of play, seems to be returning to the characteristic style of total football. Likewise, the French have too much talent (Bathenay, Platini, Larios, Moizan) in midfield to want to shut it off completely.

With players of the calibre of Lawrenson and David O'Leary in the centre of defence, Brady, Daly and the much improved Grealish in midfield and Stapleton up front, one could feel that the Republic are well equipped to deal with any team. This is to ignore two problems — first the lack of strength in depth in the squad and secondly the tactical limitations of the side's most recent performances.

With regard to the squad, there is cover for the back four in the shape of Anderson, Langan, Pierce O'Leary, Hughton, Grimes, Mulligan and Martin. The problem is more the midfield, as ememplifed by the performance of the second choice midfields against both the U.S.A. and Northern Ireland this autumn. There is also a shortage of a truly

by

Paddy Agnew

great striker, but that is hardly a novel complaint.

A more disturbing problem is the apparant predictablity of the Republic's tactics. It is not just that too often the team looks to Brady to make the incisive break or lay on the accurate probing pass. There is also a certain ponderousness about the way the ball arrives with Brady in the midfield or with the overlapping full back.

There is nothing to prevent Brady being marked right out of the game, as against Northern Ireland in Dublin. Daly, Grealish and the young Murphy could all unload Brady of his play-making responsibilities or equally Brady could drop back deeper and play (Somewhat as he did against England in Dublin) more as a libero.

Ponderousness, predictablilty and inaccuracy will all be sorely punished against all three midfields, Dutch, French and Belgian. Yet there is great hope for the Republic's squad. However they fare in the next two years of World Cup soccer, one thing is clear — there is the nucleus of a superb team for the eighties maturing quietly under the shrewd handling of John Giles.

Already two of the young players, Brady and David O'Leary would seem to be in the highest class. How many more great players might blossom in the shadow of these two? The Republic has never had a stronger youth team (they recently defeated Belgium in the Youths' European Championship). The time to judge Giles and his policies may well be 1986, the year of the thirteenth World Cup!

Liam Brady (right) of the Republic of Ireland in action against England's David Johnson at Wembley.

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Classified Results

SUPER CUP, First leg
(January 30)

Nottingham Forest 1 (George 9)
Barcelona 0

HT: 1-0. **Att:** 23,807. **Ref:** Adolf Prokop (EG).

Forest: Shilton — Anderson, Burns, Lloyd, Gray — O'Neill, Bowles, Francis — Birtles, George, Robertson.

Barcelona: Artola — Zuviria, Migueli, Olmo, Serrat — Costas, Asensi, Landaburu, Rubio — Simonsen (Esteban 87), Roberto (Carrasco 85).

Forest manager Brian Clough sent out a side top-heavy on skill with four defenders and six attackers and no recognised midfielders.

"We could have won 5-0" he said afterwards, and Forest certainly promised as much after the way Charlie George — justifying the possibility of a £500,000 move from Southampton — headed them in front after nine minutes from a Trevor Francis cross. Francis had originally been given the chance to outpace Juan Serrat by a raking pass from George himself.

After that it was a mixture of bad luck and brilliant goalkeeping from Pedro Artola which defied Forest. Barcelona threatened only twice, both times in the first half when Peter Shilton was forced to make swallowdive saves from Allan Simonsen and Roberto.

A bad miss by Burns with a header just before half-time plus brilliant stops by Artola from Birtles in the first half and Birtles (twice), Burns and George in the second half would have been rough enough for Forest without the additional frustrations of Francis twice striking the woodwork in the first half and Stan Bowles seeing Artola deflect his effort against a post in the second.

Second leg (Feb 5)

Barcelona 1 (Roberto 25 pen)
Nottingham Forest 1 (Burns 41)

HT: 1-1. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Walter Eschweiler (WG)
Forest win 2-1 on agg.

Barcelona: Artola — Estella, Migueli, Olmo, Serrat (Esteban 75) — Sanchez, Asensi, Rubio — Simonsen, Roberto, Carrasco.

Forest: Shilton — Anderson, Lloyd, Burns, Gray — McGovern, Bowles, Francis (O'Neill 69) — Birtles, George, Robertson.

While manager Brian Clough was busy denying yet more speculation that he was about to quit, so his team were scaling another peak in holding Barcelona and adding the Super Cup to their trophies.

Barcelona, spurred on by their 80,000 fans, went hell for leather from the kick-off, but by the time Roberto converted a penalty — awarded for Frank Gray's foul on Allan Simonsen — the steam was already going out of their effort.

Roberto and Garry Birtles had earlier seen 'goals' disallowed for offside, but the turning point for Forest came with a fine save by Peter Shilton from a Jose Sanchez power-drive in the 33rd minute.

Eight minutes later Forest grabbed a vital away goal to pull ahead on aggregate as Larry Lloyd headed on John Robertson's corner and Kenny Burns headed down past Pedro Artola.

It was Burns's first goal of the season and though Forest wasted a 46th-minute penalty — Robertson's effort was parried by Artola after Olmo brought down Bowles — they held on confidently.

Roberto was just wide on one occasion and Shilton twice saved well from Simonsen. But while Forest had Lloyd and Anderson booked, they had far less trouble keeping Barcelona at bay than the Spaniards had found when the situation had been reversed in the first leg.

"An away draw in Europe is always a good result," said Clough. "But here in Barcelona it's a great one."

INTERNATIONALS
January 16

Nicosia
Cyprus 1 (Kizas 81 pen)
Greece 1 (Anastopoulos 28)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,000.

Greece: Konstantinou (Moukeas 60) — Gounaris (Xantopoulos 46), Firos, Ravousis (Venos 46), Iossifidis — Kouis (Ballis 46), Nikoloudis (Ardizoglu 46), Anastopoulos — Anastasiadis (Valaoras 46), Galakos, Orfanos.

Greek manager Alektas Panagulias resembled a man with cares of the world on his shoulders. For a start, he was still mulling over the European finals draw and regretting the fact that Greece had missed out on the group containing Italy and Spain.

Secondly, this match in Nicosia was of little use in preparation. Injuries robbed him of stopper Kapsis, midfielders Livathanos and Damanakis and forward Mitropoulos. In addition top striker Tomas Mavros was absent getting married, and team captain Georgios Delikaris had just been suspended by Panathinaikos until the end of the season in a pay row!

Even so, the Greeks could have won easily. Anastopoulos headed them in front from a corner and they recklessly squandered a host of other opportunities to make the game safe.

Velez Sarsfield, left to right, back row: Bujedo, Gonzelez, Jorge, Falcioni, Ruiz, Rotondi. Front: Castro, Roldan, Ischia, Jiminez, Larraguy.

Paraguay, America Cup winners, left to right, back row: Espinola, Torales, Sosa, Kiesse, Fernandez, Paredes. Front: Florentin, M. Morel, Aquino, Perez, Romero.

Consequently they paid a literal penalty shortly before the end when goalkeeper Moukeas — one of their six substitutes — brought down Kizas, who got up to score from the spot.

JANUARY 17

Cali (Colombia)
Colombia 0
Rumania 0
Att: 22,000.

Rumania, their World Cup qualification ties against England and Co already in mind, were largely unimpressive despite the confidence gained from a 2-2 against a Hungarian League XI (Ferencvaros plus guests) in the same tournament in Colombia the previous Friday.

JANUARY 23

Leon
Mexico 1 (Cisneros 53)
Czechoslovakia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 27,500.

Mexican goalkeeper Pilar Reyes saved the day against the European champions, who were making a brief stop en route for Australia.

Vigo
Spain 1 (Dani 82 pen)
Holland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 19,000 (£35,000 receipts). **Ref:** Marcel Bacou (F).

Spain: Arconada — Celayeta (Landaburu 46), Migueli, Olmo, Gordillo — Saura, Asensi, Zamora — Juanito, Santillana (Satrustegui 46), Carraco (Dani 46).

Holland: Schrijvers — Jansen (Brandts 43), Krol, Van der Korput, Hovenkamp — Schoenmaker (Nanninga 81), Thijssen, Stevens — La Ling, Kist, Tahamata (W. Van der Kerkhof 18).

Only the fourth time the teams had met in 60 years and you might have expected that Spain would have made a little more effort to treat the Dutch in the way double World Cup runners-up deserve, rather than put them to this shabby shambles.

For a start the Dutch hadn't wanted to play in Vigo. They would have preferred one of the major centres such as Madrid, Barcelona, or even Valencia or Seville.

Then, when the teams arrived at the ground there had been such heavy rain that the Dutch players insisted there was no way they could play. The decision, of course, wasn't up to them, but referee Bacou, under pressure from Spanish officials, who gave the go-ahead.

The rain had stopped by this time, but in the 18th minute the tragi-comedy ground to a standstill when one floodlight tower and a central bar of lights over the main stand, went out. It took just short of an hour (!) to fix the fuse and by that time the Dutch players had showered and were on their way to the team bus.

Persuaded that if they didn't play on, the fans might go wild (as they might well have done already), the Dutch once more gave way. But, as Rudi Krol said afterwards: "You can't expect professionals to play on a pitch like that, in a situation like that. Our game, our style, our tactics, are built on being able to move the ball around. On this pitch it was hard enough to move your own feet, let alone the ball as well."

Holland had, in fact, wasted one golden opportunity in the first minutes of the game when Kees Kist went past the goalkeeper only to see his shot held up in the mud and cleared off the goalline.

Undeterred Kist — along with Krol, of course —was among the better of a distinguished Dutch team. But it was the Spaniards, realising everything was in their favour, who moved the ball around to greater effect and won the game with Dani's penalty after the Bilbao striker had been brought down by Piet Schrijvers.

JANUARY 27

Canberra
Australia 0
Czechoslovakia 4 (Jurkemik 23, Vizek 34, Nehod 62, Krol 67)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 18,000.

The European champions, despite having only two days to settle after a 38-hour flight, were far too good for the Aussies, even at half pace.

Anton Ondrus, the Czechoslovaks' skipper in his 49th international, was in command in defence while Ladislav Jurkemik ran the show in midfield.

EURO UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP
Jan. 23 (Rome): Group 8
Italy 1 (Giodano 78)
Luxembourg 0.

Final Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	4	3	1	0	5	0	7
Switzerland	4	2	1	1	8	2	5
Luxembourg	4	0	0	4	1	12	0

OTHER MATCHES

Jan 5 (Carrara): Carrarese 0, China 1. (Hong Kong): Kanton 3, Hamburg 3 (Milewski, Keegan, Bliemeister). **Jan 10** (Florence): Fiorentina 0, China 0. (Rahmen): Israel 0, Borussia Mg 2 (Nielsen 21, Bödeker 77). **Jan 11** (Bogota): Rumania 2, Hungary Lge XI 2. **Jan 14** (Bogota): Colombia 1, Hungary Lge XI 1. **Jan 15** (Mar del Plata): Independiente 1 (Alvarez 88), Hungary Lge XI 1 (Kuti 34). **Jan 17** (Mar del Plata): Boca 1 (Bordon 33), Hungary Lge XI 1 (Pusztai 39). **Jan 18** (B/Aires/Velez): Argentina Olympic 3 (Meza 69, 76 pen, Roldan 88), Honved 1 (Gyimesi 26). (San Remo): San Remo 1 (Pietropaolo 46), China 2 (Li La Pab 41, 69). **Jan 19** (Mar del Plata): Racing BA 2 (Udvardi own goal 10, Alonso 75), Hungary Lge XI 3 (Meszoly 45, Biro 58, Major 83). **Jan 22** (Coruna): Spain U20 0, Holland U20 2 (Lengkeek 68, Lokhoff 85). **Jan 24** (Puebla): Mexico U23 2 (Lira 37, Gonzales 71), Czechoslovakia U23 3 (Berger 22 and 73, Horny 81). **Jan 26** (Sao Paulo): Santos 0, Rumania 1. (Mar del Plata): River Plate 0, Hungary Lge XI 1 (Szokolai 78 pen). **Jan 30** (Buenos Aires): Racing BA 1, Russia U21 1.

MORE NEXT MONTH

•Continued from page 5

penalty box — an odd decision, presumably for obstruction as Roberto leapt for a header — Boskov made his second switch.

Juanito, who hadn't trained all week because of injury came off, and on went Roberto Martinez. To immediate effect. Staying wide on the right, where Juanito had insisted on cutting in, he ran round the outside of Serrat to collect a finely-judged pass from Pirri, and cut back a long curling centre. Santillana, at the far corner of the penalty box, headed square and Garcia Hernandez had time to take the ball down on his chest, steady himself, aim — with his "wrong" right foot — and fire.

The fans knew just as well as Artola where the ball would go, and were just as helpless to keep it out. It flew like a bullet inside the far post. Madrid were ahead, and not before time. There was silence.

Two minutes later, with Barsa pushing forward, Zuviria failed to control the ball just inside his own half. Cunningham snatched it, sped past Migueli to the line and cut back a hard low cross which Santillana touched in at the near post.

Two-nil. It was all over. The quiet was uncanny.

There was a later booking for Pirri, for tripping Simonsen in full flight, but the rest of the evening belonged to Madrid and, in particular, to Cunningham.

His speed, his skill and his clear adjustment to the demands of the Spanish game were not lost even on the Barcelona fans. At one juncture, as he twice ran from one corner flag to the other, to hit three kicks in quick succession, they rose to him, awarding him a major ovation, the rarest of all accolades for a Real Madrid man.

And long after the players had disappeared, down below the moat and up the wide staircase past the chapel, to their dressing rooms, the fans were still talking about two of Cunningham's most spectacular contributions.

The first was when he managed to catch, like an express train, a long clearance into no-man's land from Pirri, catching Barsa on the hop; the second was to catch a long high clearance, sailing out of play, on his foot after it came down over his shoulder, to flick it through the air, turn around and catch the ball on his thigh.

Shades of Pele! Certainly, if you'd asked a stranger to Spanish football which player was Brazilian he would have pointed to Cunningham, not Roberto 'Dinamita'. Not even 'Dynamite' for the Barsa fans, either; for the time being, they've relegated him in nickname terms to a mere 'firework.'

The reactions after the match were predictable. Boskov was loud and tipsy with success, Rife grim and almost inaudible.

"At Barcelona we have good players and a good team," he said. "But Madrid at the moment have better players and a better team. I suppose now there will be one or two more directors against me. Well, if they think someone can do this job better, let them find him. I'm not throwing in the towel.

"A penalty? I'm sure of it. But I'm not complaining. Barcelona should not have to rely on penalties to score goals."

And Fandos, for Barsa's fans, the villain of the piece? He didn't hide away. If anything he couldn't find enough journalists to interview him. "It would have been a penalty, of course, if I hadn't whistled moments before. Why? Because Serrat put his foot up at the goalkeeper. The trouble was, no one heard the whistle . . ."

Nuñez certainly hadn't. A little man, his face was fixed grimly as he led his band of acolytes upstairs and out of the stadium. If he feared shouts of disapproval, he was wrong. Only sympathetic applause followed him into the night . . .

By the time you read this, Rife may well have been replaced. For a club with the pride of the worried Cup-Winners' Cup holders and quarter-finalists, failure is unpardonable and Spanish football needs a strong Barcelona, to act as counter to Madrid.

Real Sociedad, maintaining a 20-game unbeaten record the same day thanks to a 0-0 draw at Valencia, may have their noses ahead. But in the long term, the provincial clubs can't match big-city resources.

Madrid could well go on to win the Champions' Cup. They have the class and the will, and the final in their own stadium. And they certainly surprised Billy McNeill by their willingness to attack, even in the most hostile of environments.

But whatever the future holds for the two giants of Spain, their clashes will continue, for many millions, to be the Match of the Century . . . twice a season.

Feb 10 — Spanish League
Barcelona 0
Real Madrid 2 (Garcia Hernandez 60, Santillana 62)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 100,000. **Ref:** Manuel Fandos (Valencia).

Barcelona: 1 Artola — 2 Zuviria, 3 Migueli, 4 Olmo, 5 Serrat — 8 Sanchez, 10 Asensi, 6 Rubio (Landaburu 67) — 7 Simonsen, 9 Roberto, 11 Carrasco. Other subs: Amigo, Costas, Esteban.

Real Madrid: 1 Garcia Remon — 2 San Jose (Sabido 50), 4 Pirri, 5 Benito, 3 Camacho — 8 Angel, 10 Garcia Hernandez, 10 Del Bosque — 7 Juanito (Roberto Martinez 56), 9 Santillana, 11 Cunningham. Other subs: Miguel Angel, Portugal.

LEAGUE TABLES

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	25	17	3	5	49	22	37
St-Etienne	25	15	6	4	53	35	36
Nantes	25	15	5	5	49	22	35
Sochaux	25	16	3	6	53	27	35
St-Germain	25	12	6	7	39	30	30
Strasbourg	25	11	4	10	35	35	26
Nimes	25	10	6	9	33	36	26
Lens	25	10	6	9	32	36	26
Valenciennes	25	10	6	9	28	32	26
Bordeaux	25	10	5	10	43	36	25
Laval	25	10	4	11	39	34	24
Angers	25	9	6	10	34	35	24
Lille	25	7	9	9	36	36	23
Nice	25	9	5	11	37	44	23
Nancy	25	9	3	13	38	44	21
Metz	25	7	6	12	25	37	20
Lyon	25	6	8	11	33	46	20
Bastia	25	8	3	14	24	34	19
Marseille	25	6	4	15	29	50	16
Brest	25	1	6	18	16	54	8

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bruges	24	15	4	5	50	20	34
Lokeren	24	15	3	6	48	19	33
Standard	24	13	7	4	55	23	33
Molenbeek	24	13	7	4	39	22	33
Anderlecht	24	14	3	7	50	23	31
CS Bruges	24	12	4	8	41	38	28
Lierse	24	12	3	9	46	35	27
Beveren	24	8	10	6	28	27	26
FC Liege	24	9	5	10	34	33	23
Beerschot	24	7	9	8	30	30	23
Waterschei	24	7	8	9	28	33	22
Waregem	24	6	10	8	24	31	22
Antwerp	24	7	7	10	30	30	21
Winterslag	24	6	9	9	22	47	21
Beringen	24	5	6	13	22	38	16
Berchem	24	3	10	11	26	42	16
Charleroi	24	5	5	14	14	48	15
Hasselt	24	2	4	18	14	62	8

● Continued on page 50

Ralf Edstrom, the Swedish international now with Standard Liege, sports some unusual facial gear for the match against Antwerp. He had broken his nose in the Leige derby the previous week and needed protective covering. Standard won 1-0.

Winter break halts Lokeren run for the championship

By Philip Smith

AS the Belgian season entered its four week break over Christmas, the state of the First Division leadership was in some ways similar to that of the previous season. At the same stage a year ago it was the small town team of Beveren who held a four point lead over the nearest challenger, a lead that remained intact for the rest of the season. This season it was the team from Lokeren, population 30,000, who found themselves four points clear of the second club, Bruges, and a staggering eight points clear of fifth placed Anderlecht.

Lokeren's playing record of dropping just six points in the first seventeen games gave them every reason to feel very satisfied with their efforts. A goal difference of plus 31 was ample testimony to the rock solid defence superbly marshalled by De Schijvers and Dalving and the unlikely combination of the Dane Larsen and the ex-Polish star Lubanski regularly amongst the goals.

Even more unlikely were the impressive performances of the young Scottish midfield players James Bett, who managed to find his way to Lokeren via Airdrie and a couple of games for Valur Rejkyavic of Iceland. The tackling, distribution and fierce long range shooting from this exciting right sided player ideally complemented the deft touches of the Belgian under-21 star Mommens and the strong running ability of the captain Verheyen, both left sided players with outstanding attacking abilities.

Confident

It was therefore a supremely confident Lokeren side that began the return matches on January 5 with a visit to a Beveren side lacking through injuries their main strike force of Erwin Albert and Bob Stevens. This seemed to rally the home side who produced a spirited display and won by a single goal from Cluytens, giving the visitors their third defeat of the season.

A home win against Waregem was then followed by another single goal away defeat, this time at Liege, and to make matters worse both the sweeper Dalving and Lubanski were injured and haven't played since.

A fortnight later came the third successive away defeat by a Beringen side inspired by the current playmaker of the national side, Wilfred Van Moer and with the chasing sides all winning, the gap between Lokeren and Bruges was now down to a point, with Anderlecht still in fifth place but only three points behind the leaders.

Momentum

As luck would have it, the fixture list gave Lokeren the chance to regain their momentum with a home game against Bruges. A packed crowd at the Daknam Stadium saw a fiercely competitive match, with both sides fully aware of the supreme confidence booster a win would produce. The home side badly missed the power of Lubanski and with Larsen devoting his energy to diving about the panelty area in a vain attempt to impress referee Ponnet there were very few opportunities to pierce the visitors defence in which the Hungarian import from Ferencvaros Lazlo Balint, was outstanding.

The match was decided in the 57th minute, when a blockbuster shot from Jan Ceulemans gave Bruges a victory they just about deserved. Aprt from scoring his 18th goal of the season, Ceulemans produced an exemplary display of powerful front running combined with deceptive skill and he will certainly pose problems to the opposing defences in the forthcoming European Championship finals.

Impressive

The league leadership was the prize for this victory and it is now anybodys guess as to who will eventually lift the crown. Of the five main contenders, the form of Standard Liege and Anderlecht has been particularly impressive, with both sides recently taking eleven points out of twelve and not conceding a goal between them in the process. Anderlecht seem to have recovered from their early season disappointments and are at last playing as a team instead of a collection of individuals. RWDM are also maintain a strong challenge, with their vital win at Bruges on January 20 giving them a comparable record to both Standard and Anderlecht since the resumpton. With away games scheduled at Lokeren and Standard during March, the team from Molenbeek will be quite happy to emulate their Bruges success at both venues.

While the top five battle it out for the championship, there is an added incentive for the remaining teams to keep going until the end of the season. Under the new ruling for the allocation of UEFA Cup places according to an average mark of each country's club performances in Europe over the last five years the Belgians will be alloted four places for next season, as opposed to the current allocation of two.

It was the performances of Anderlecht and Bruges that were mainly responsible for the Belgians coming third to West Germany and Holland in the UEFA rankings and it is to be hoped that next season's representatives put up a better show than the feeble attempts of this season.

Top five

Assuming one of the top five win the Belgian Cup, then the team that finishes sixth will claim a place in Europe. At the moment it seems likely that this team will be one from Cercle Bruges, Lierse or Beveren. The less famous Bruges side are enjoying a successful season following their promotion last season from Division 2, which is more than can be said for their fellow promotees Hasselt, who are stranded at the foot of the league and look certain to make a quick return downwards.

Position

Lierse's position in the table owes much to the goalscoring of young Erwin Van Den Bergh, who leads the goalscoring list with twenty goals at an average of a goal a game. Three of these goals came in the recent 5-2 hammering of Beveren, for whom very little seems to go right in the league these days. Last seasons champions are still in the cup however, and they will be looking for a continuation of their form in the last round, when they put five past the luckless Winterslag.

The player of the year for 1979 is Jean Jannsens, following the footsteps of his team mate Jean-Marie Pfaff as holder of the Golden Shoe . The Beveren captain is close to completing twenty years with his only club, and the award is a tribute to both his fine form during the championship run-in and his outstanding loyalty to the club.

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	25	15	7	3	55	19	37
Manchester Utd.	27	14	8	5	41	20	36
Southampton	29	13	7	9	48	34	33
Arsenal	27	11	10	6	33	21	32
Ipswich	28	14	4	10	42	31	32
Nottingham For.	27	12	6	9	40	33	30
Aston Villa	25	10	9	6	32	26	29
Middlesbrough	26	11	7	8	30	24	29
Crystal Palace	28	9	11	8	30	30	29
Leeds	28	9	11	8	33	35	29
Norwich	26	9	10	7	41	38	28
Wolverhampton	26	11	6	9	30	30	28
Coventry	27	12	3	12	38	43	27
Tottenham	27	10	7	10	33	38	27
West Bromwich	28	8	10	10	39	39	26
Manchester City	28	9	7	12	29	44	25
Stoke	27	8	8	11	29	36	24
Brighton	28	8	8	12	35	44	24
Everton	27	6	11	10	30	36	23
Bristol	28	5	9	14	20	40	19
Derby	29	6	5	18	26	47	17
Bolton	25	1	10	14	18	44	12

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	20	16	2	2	54	19	34
AZ'67 Alkmaar	20	12	5	3	42	21	29
Feyenoord	19	10	7	2	36	16	27
Roda JC Kerkrade	21	11	3	7	31	26	25
PSV Eindhoven	21	9	6	6	31	25	24
Utrecht	21	9	6	6	31	25	24
Twente	20	8	5	7	26	27	21
Den Haag	20	7	7	6	25	26	21
Excelcior	20	8	5	7	34	36	21
Go Ahead Deventer	19	7	4	8	29	25	18
Willem II	19	5	7	7	22	37	17
Haarlem	21	5	7	9	28	41	17
PEC Zwolle	19	5	5	9	20	26	15
MVV Maastricht	20	3	9	8	24	32	15
Sparta Rotterdam	19	5	4	10	29	35	14
Vitesse	20	4	6	10	22	38	14
NAC Breda	18	3	4	11	11	30	10
NEC Nijmegen	19	4	2	13	16	34	10

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamburg	20	11	6	3	43	20	28
Cologne	20	11	5	4	48	31	27
Bayern	20	11	4	5	40	22	26
Dortmund	20	11	2	7	43	31	24
Schalke	20	9	6	5	27	19	24
VfB Stuttgart	20	10	3	7	40	30	23
Frankfurt	20	11	0	9	38	27	22
Mönchengladbach	20	7	8	5	33	31	22
Kaiserslautern	20	8	3	9	33	35	19
Leverkusen	20	6	7	7	24	35	19
Düsseldorf	20	7	4	9	41	45	18
1860 Munich	20	6	6	8	28	32	18
Uerdingen	20	7	3	10	23	34	17
Bochum	20	6	4	10	21	27	16
Duisburg	20	5	5	10	21	35	15
Bremen	20	6	3	11	27	48	15
Brunswick	20	4	6	10	20	31	14
Hertha Berlin	20	4	5	11	20	37	13

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter	19	9	9	1	23	9	27
Milan	19	8	6	5	18	12	22
Juventus	19	9	3	7	22	19	21
Perugia	19	5	11	3	20	17	21
Roma	19	6	9	4	20	20	21
Avellino	19	5	11	3	14	14	21
Ascoli	19	6	8	5	17	17	20
Cagliari	19	6	8	5	14	14	20
Bologna	19	5	9	5	17	15	19
Lazio	19	4	11	4	15	13	19
Napoli	19	5	9	5	10	8	19
Fiorentina	19	5	8	6	18	16	18
Torino	19	5	8	6	14	12	18
Catanzaro	19	2	11	6	13	22	15
Udinese	19	2	10	7	15	22	14
Pescara	19	2	5	12	10	30	9

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ljuftetari	16	8	5	3	27	15	21
Dynamo	16	8	5	3	24	17	21
Vlaznia	16	7	5	4	23	17	19
Partizani	16	6	7	3	21	15	19
17th Nendori	16	7	5	4	23	22	19
Besa	16	6	5	5	17	17	17
Lokomotiva	16	5	6	5	20	20	16
Fljamutari	16	6	4	6	19	22	16
Skenderbeu	15	5	6	4	14	13	16(−1)
Ljabinoti	16	3	8	5	18	19	14
Naftetari	16	5	4	7	20	26	14
Tomori	15	4	5	6	21	26	13(−1)
Skendia	15	3	5	7	13	19	11(−1)
Apolonia	15	0	4	11	9	29	4(−1)

To play: Skenderbeu v. Apolonia, Tomori v. Skendia.

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PAOK	19	13	4	3	35	14	28
Ethnicos	19	11	4	4	33	12	26
Olympiacos	19	12	1	6	28	12	25
Aris	19	10	5	4	23	12	25
AEK	19	11	2	6	36	23	24
Panathenaicos	19	8	7	4	21	17	23
OFI	19	9	3	7	23	24	21
Larisa	19	9	2	8	19	28	20
Ionnina	19	7	5	7	28	27	19
Kavala	19	7	5	7	17	22	19
Doxa	19	6	6	7	14	21	18
Heracles	19	7	3	9	24	20	17
Korintos	19	7	2	10	22	26	16
Panahaiki	19	5	5	9	25	32	15
Kastoria	19	4	6	9	16	19	14
Panionios	19	4	5	10	22	31	13
Rodos	19	2	6	11	14	41	10
Apolon	19	2	5	12	8	27	9

SOUTH (AND CENTRAL) AMERICAN LEAGUE TABLES

PERU: National Championship (two games to go)

Championship Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal (1)	12	7	4	1	18	7	19
Atletico Chalaco	12	6	4	2	16	7	16
Alianza Lima	12	4	7	1	12	9	15
Juan Aurich (2)	12	4	4	4	12	10	12
Alfonso Ugarte	12	3	5	4	15	18	11
Universitario (3)	12	2	4	6	11	16	11
Deportivo Junin	12	3	4	5	12	22	10
Union Huaral	12	1	4	7	15	22	6

(Numbers in brackets are bonus points for finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in regular championship.)

Relegation Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sport Boys	12	6	3	3	19	13	15
Coronel Bolognesi	12	5	4	3	12	9	14
Atletico Torino (1)	12	5	2	5	15	12	11
Melgar (3)	12	5	3	4	11	11	10
Colegio Nac. Iquitos	12	4	2	6	11	11	10
Juventud La Palma (2)	12	4	4	4	11	13	10
Leon de Huanuco	12	5	–	7	14	19	10
Deportivo Municipal	12	3	4	5	12	17	10

(Numbers in brackets are points deducted for finishing in bottom three places of regular championship.)

MEXICO: First Division

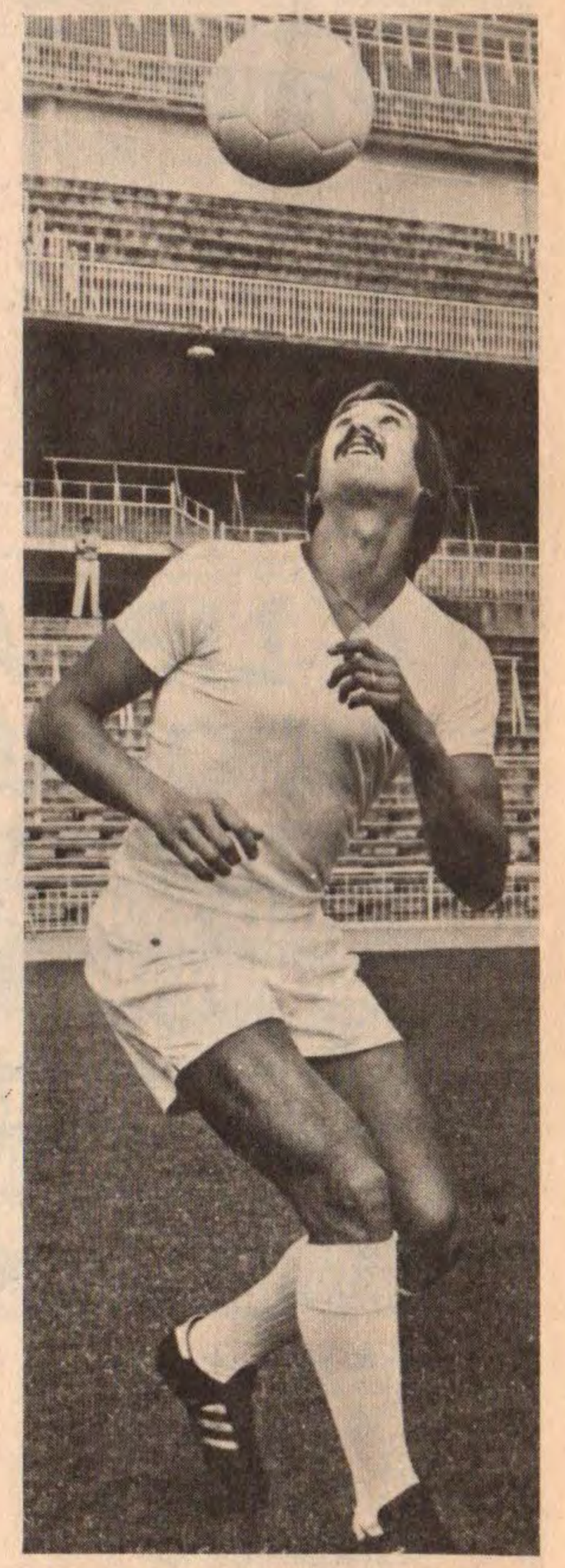
Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante	17	11	2	4	29	13	24
Cruz Azul	17	8	7	2	32	19	23
Puebla	17	6	7	4	29	24	19
Monterrey	17	4	6	7	18	25	14
Jalisco	17	3	3	11	14	33	9

Group 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Univ. de Mexico	17	7	8	2	26	19	22
Tampico	17	6	5	6	23	23	17
Guadalajara	17	4	9	4	19	18	17
Atletico Potosino	17	4	5	8	12	21	13
Union de Curtidores	17	3	3	11	19	28	9

Group 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America	17	11	3	3	31	14	25
Toluca	17	8	7	2	21	13	23
Neza	17	6	8	3	24	20	20
Univ. de Guadalajara	17	4	4	9	11	20	12
Leon	17	3	4	10	19	37	10

Group 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Univ. de Nuevo Leon	17	9	5	3	38	22	23
Zacatapec	17	5	7	5	25	21	17
Univ. de Guad.	17	5	6	6	23	26	16
Atletico Español	17	6	2	9	17	22	14
Atlas	17	4	5	8	17	29	13

More next month



Ulrich Steilike of West Germany and Real Madrid.

World SOCCER

JIMMY NICHOLL Manchester United